

# Griggs challenging Neumann in District 3

Neighborhood activist says incumbent doesn't put the district first

Also in Texas News, gay candidate files for Arlington Council race

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## ALL THIS, THAT and the OTHER

Dallas' black gay arts scene gets a future as Harold Steward refers to the past for inspiration

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer

Sometimes with death comes a birth — or maybe an outing. When acclaimed author E. Lynn Harris died in the summer of 2009, Harold Steward, along with the rest of the gay black community and Harris' fans, felt shock and sadness.

But with Harris' death came the inception of an idea that is changing the face of arts in the Dallas African-American LGBT community.

"There had been nothing planned to memorialize him, so I approached View of Dallas [book club] about this idea," Steward said. "I brought in the dance and poetry people while they read excerpts. We had about 30 people come ... and Fahari was kinda outed at that point."

Only 28, Steward speaks with the eloquence of a mature soul. In conversation, he throws in

■ ALL THIS, Page 12

**SPOKEN WORD** | As the artistic director of Fahari, Harold Steward helps celebrate the queer-identified black arts community of Dallas with monthly programming like the spoken word event Queerly Speaking. (Tammye Nash, Dallas Voice)





# APPLY TO BECOME A 2011 BLACK TIE DINNER BENEFICIARY

Black Tie Dinner is proud to begin its 30th year in partnership with, and in support of, the North Texas gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. We are pleased to announce the 2011 beneficiary application and selection process and invite North Texas GLBT supportive, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organizations to apply. Beginning February 1, 2011, applications will be available online at [blacktie.org](http://blacktie.org); the deadline for receiving completed applications is February 25, 2011. For more details regarding qualifications, requirements, the application and selection process, visit [blacktie.org](http://blacktie.org) or email Ron Hill at [rhill@blacktie.org](mailto:rhill@blacktie.org).

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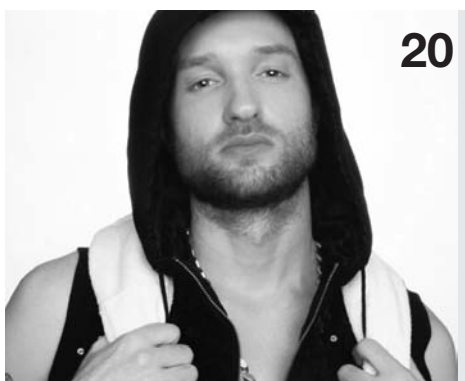
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## BTD beneficiary application process begins Feb. 1

Organizers promise more announcements are coming soon about 30th annual fundraising dinner

**FROM STAFF REPORTS**

editor@dallasvoice.com

Officials with Black Tie Dinner this week announced that the organization will begin accepting applications Feb. 1 from potential beneficiaries

of the 30th annual event, set for Nov. 12 at Sheraton Dallas hotel.

Each year, money raised by the dinner is divided between the Human Rights Campaign Foundation and local beneficiary organizations. As many as 20 local beneficiaries are chosen each year.

Beneficiary applications will be available on the BTD website on Feb. 1, and the deadline for submitting applications is Feb. 25. The names of those organizations chosen as beneficiaries will be announced March 30.

Eligible groups must have tax-exempt 501(c)(3)

status with the IRS and must demonstrate service to the LGBT community, using a majority of their funds for direct programs and services.

Officials also said this week that other announcements about plans for the 30th annual Black Tie Dinner can be expected in the next week.

The dinner began in 1982 when organizers donated about \$6,000 to HRCF and has grown into the largest LGBT fundraising dinner of its kind in the country. More than \$15 million has been distributed to beneficiaries since then.

■ **BTD**, Page 10



### Hightower would be 1st gay councilman in Arlington

A week before Super Bowl XLV at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, openly gay Realtor Chris Hightower is set to kick off his campaign for the District 5 seat on the City Council.

According to the Washington, D.C.-based Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund, which has endorsed Hightower, he would be the first openly gay city councilmember in Arlington's history.

Hightower is an Arlington native who is the son of former Democratic State Rep. Paula Pierson. He lives with his partner in the historic "azalea house" at Park Row and Davis, according to his campaign website:

"I am running for City Council because I love Arlington," Hightower writes. "From the classrooms of my childhood to the elected offices of today, I have witnessed firsthand what good can come from the hard work of those who care about our hometown. They have made this city into the place that I love. Now, it is time for my generation to step forward and provide leadership for our city's future just as the generations before us have. It is my hope that children living in Arlington today choose to stay here and raise their families — not because they see the great things I saw in our city while I was growing up, but because they saw something even better."

Hightower is trying to unseat District 5 incumbent Lana Wolff, who is seeking a fifth term on the council. Other candidates expected to run in District 5 include attorney Terry Meza and UTA student Christopher McCain.

According to his Facebook page, Hightower will host a kickoff party at 7 p.m. this Saturday, Jan. 29 at 2316 Woodsong Trail in Arlington.

He becomes the second candidate from Texas endorsed by the Victory Fund this year, joining Fort Worth Councilman Joel Burns, who's seeking re-election to his District 9 seat.

The other known openly gay candidate in North Texas is James Nowlin, who plans to run for the District 14 seat on the Dallas City Council if incumbent Angela Hunt steps down to run for mayor.

— John Wright

### Cox named to board of Women's Foundation

**FROM STAFF REPORTS**

editor@dallasvoice.com

Cece Cox, executive director of Resource Center Dallas, has been named to a three-year



Cece Cox

term on the board of directors of the Dallas Women's Foundation for a three-year term.

The appointment is effective Feb. 1.

The foundation, established in 1985, focuses on women's philanthropy, grant making and gender-specific research. It has given more than \$13 million to more than 950 organizations, with a net impact on more than a quarter-million women and girls primarily in Dallas, Denton and Collin counties.

The foundation is part of a global network of 145 women's foundations on six continents.

Cox became executive director of RCD in July, 2010, after about three years as the center's associate executive director for GLBT community services. As associated executive director, Cox was directly responsible for creating and maintaining programs at the center.

She has also worked with and/or supported the Turtle Creek Chorale, Legal Hospice of Texas, Youth First Texas and the regional office of Lambda Legal.

Cox is a former president of the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance and a former co-chair of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Dallas. She serves on the advisory board for both the Black Tie Dinner and

■ **COX**, Page 11

## Neighborhood activist challenges District 3 incumbent for council

Scott Griggs says Dave Neumann doesn't have the neighborhood's interests as a top priority

**DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer**

taffet@dallasvoice.com

In campaigns, gas drilling is usually a state vs. federal government concern. In Dallas, it could be a deciding factor in a single council district race since challenger Scott Griggs has raised the issue in his race for city council against District 3 incumbent Dave Neumann.

The massive Dallas City Council District 3 covers more than 50 square miles — an area larger than the city of San Francisco. Potential drilling sites include Red Bird Airport and Mountain Creek, an area that is closer to Highway 360 in Arlington than it is to Downtown Dallas or even to Bishop Arts in Oak Cliff.

A controversial technique called "fracking" — slang for "hydraulic fracturing" — would be used to extract gas from underlying shale. Opponents have warned fracking could be responsible for recent earthquakes in North Texas and that chemicals used in the process may pollute the ground water.

Runoff from this area feeds Mountain Creek Lake, a source of drinking water for the southern sector.

At the Sept. 22, 2010 council meeting, Neumann called the Barnett Shale drilling proposals "a sweetheart deal" and "a great deal for the taxpayers of Dallas."



Scott Griggs

Many in his district, including Griggs, disagree. "He's ignoring the effects on property values, quality of life, our air, our water, our health," Griggs said. "I've been asking for a moratorium."

Griggs said he would like more study to see what the effects would actually be.

Neumann has delayed a vote on the issue until

■ **DISTRICT 3**, Page 10



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## localbriefs

### AOC plans Black HIV/AIDS Awareness event in Fort Worth

AIDS Outreach Center, in collaboration with the city of Fort Worth, will commemorate National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on Monday, Feb. 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Fort Worth City Hall, 1000 Throckmorton St.

The theme for the event is "It Takes a Village" and AIDS Outreach Center's Prevention and Outreach staff will provide testing at the event.

In addition, on Sunday, Feb. 6, the center's Prevention and Outreach staff will offer testing at the Christ Center Missionary Baptist Church, 2126 Amanda Ave. in Fort Worth, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Contact AIDS Outreach Center's Outreach Specialist John Reed or Cynthia Vargas at [Johnr@aoc.org](mailto:Johnr@aoc.org) or [Cynthiav@aoc.org](mailto:Cynthiav@aoc.org) for more information.

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day raises HIV awareness and reduces the stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS within the African-American community, and encourages at risk individuals to get tested and know their HIV status to help stop the spread of HIV within one of the fastest growing segments of the population.

In 2011, AOC will celebrate 25 years as the leading organization in Tarrant and seven surrounding rural counties serving people with HIV/AIDS and their families, educating about HIV prevention and advocating for sound HIV public policy. For information, go online to [aoc.org](http://aoc.org).

### Dallas Pride auctioning dates, raffling dinners for AIDS Arms

Dallas Pride Cheer presents a Valentine's Dinner and Date Auction Thursday, Feb. 10, from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. at JR.'s Bar & Grill, 3923 Cedar Springs Road, to benefit AIDS Arms.

Auction items include dinner and a date with a Dallas Pride cheerleader, and raffles will be held for gift certificates for dinners for two at upscale and fine dining restaurants.

### OLOUC presents program by 3 men exonerated after years in prison

The Oak Lawn Community Outreach Center of Oak Lawn Methodist Church will host "A Community Conversation: How Can Something Like This Happen?" on Sunday, Feb. 6, at 12:30 p.m. in the church's fellowship hall, located at Oak Lawn Avenue and Cedar Springs Road.

The event features three men who were wrongfully imprisoned and spent decades in prison for crimes they did not commit.

The three, who co-authored the book "Tested," will talk about how they held onto hope and reconstructed their lives.

Jeff Crilley, formerly of Fox 4 News and now president of Real News Public Relations, will moderate.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 214-521-5197 ext. 203. ■



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## ■ texasnews

# AIDS Arms announces board officers, new development director



**CALL TO ARMS** | John Loza, center, heads the new board of AIDS Arms. Also shown, from left, Jesse Garcia, Ken Morris, Loza, David Pass and Dennis Felhman (courtesy AIDS Arms)

Agency focusing on capital campaign to fund new clinic, continue to provide client services

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

[editor@dallasvoice.com](mailto:editor@dallasvoice.com)

Officials with AIDS Arms this week announced the hiring of a new director of development and the election of officers for the agency's board of directors for 2011.

Attorney and former Dallas City Council member and former Deputy Mayor Pro Tem John Loza was elected as chairman of the AIDS Arms board. Other board officers are David Pass as vice chair and Ken Morris as second vice chair. Dennis Felhman was re-elected as treasurer, and Jesse Garcia was re-elected as secretary.

The board officers are tasked with overseeing the funding and stewardship of the agency during the expansion of medical care services, including a new clinic that is expected to open this summer.

Loza, who works as a criminal defense attorney, holds a degree in government from Harvard University and a law degree from Southern Methodist University.

Pass has a bachelor's degree in science from Indiana University, and a master's degree in health administration master's degree in information management from Washington University in St. Louis. He is a senior account executive with Aetna.

Felhman, serving his third year as treasurer, is a senior vice president at Comerica Bank. He has a bachelor's degree in business administration and accounting from Grand Valley State University in Michigan.

Garcia, a public affairs specialist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, has a bachelor's degree in communications

arts from Our Lady of the Lake University, and a master's degree in communications arts from St. Mary's University.

The new development director is Don Macey, a native Dallasite who recently returned to the area after holding senior development positions with the American Cancer Society, the Arthritis Foundation and the Colorado Symphony Orchestra.

"We are very pleased to have Dan Macey join AIDS Arms. His knowledge of health care, the needs of HIV-positive people and a close connection to the Dallas area will be beneficial to our vision and goals for increasing access to quality HIV care and support for our community," Loza said.

"We have much to accomplish in combating the HIV epidemic on behalf of our clients, and we know Dan will add great value to that effort," he added.

According to a statement released by AIDS Arms, Macey is tasked with "increasing awareness for the needs of both HIV-positive and high-risk individuals in the community by building the resources required to continue providing medical care, case management, HIV prevention and testing and many other programs."

Macey's primary focus will be the Call to Arms Campaign to pay for the new 15,000-square-foot outpatient medical care clinic for people with HIV. He will work with his team, including Sheila Bryant and Karen Campbell, and with the board of directors and AIDS Arms Executive Director Raeline Nobles toward that goal.

AIDS Arms provides HIV testing and prevention services, case management, community education and support services to more than 7,000 people a year within a 10-county area in North Texas.

The agency also operates The Peabody Health Center, which is the only private, nonprofit HIV outpatient medical facility in Dallas, and the only community-based AIDS clinical research site in Texas for the National Institutes of Health. ■



# Former Dallas man murdered in Mexico

Authorities say teenage brothers have confessed to robbing and killing Allan Turnipseed in his home

**DAVID TAFFET** | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Former Dallas resident Robert Allan Turnipseed, 62, was found murdered in his home in Colonia Riberas del Pilar, Chalapa, Mexico on Jan. 6. His partner, Bob Tennison, found the body.

Two teenage brothers, ages 16 and 17, have been arrested and have confessed to the murder, according to reports in Mexican newspapers.

Newspaper reports say Tennison found his partner's body lying face down in a hall in their house, with his hands tied behind his back with electrical cord. He had been shot once in the back of the head.

The teenagers stole money from a safe in the house and escaped with the couple's Toyota pickup with Texas license plates, according to reports.

Turnipseed's Jalisco driver's license was found on a street in Chalapa the day of the murder. The truck was found abandoned outside of town near Lake Chalapa two days later. The teens were arrested on Jan. 11.

Other expatriates who lived in the area knew the teens and helped identify the pair as suspects. The brothers reportedly hold American citizenship and were abandoned by their parents. The parents have not been located.

Turnipseed and Tennison had met the two teenagers recently, but didn't know their troubled history, according to newspaper reports, which said a friend of theirs had given the brothers food and shelter.

After the teens' arrest, the older brother confessed to the murder and said they killed Turnipseed after he threatened to turn them in to the police. The older brother told police that they pushed their way into the house and coerced him to open the safe. Then they tied him up and ransacked the house.

After the murder, the brothers went on a spending spree. They had purchased food, clothing, sneakers and marijuana with the stolen money. They were arrested with the murder weapon in their possession.

If convicted, they would be sentenced to juvenile correction.

The town of Chalapa is located about 30 miles south of Guadalajara.

Before moving to Mexico, Turnipseed and Tennison lived in Uptown in Dallas. Turnipseed was born in Calgary, Alberta and grew up in Dallas. He was a graduate of University of Texas at Arlington.

Turnipseed wrote the newsletter for the Stonewall Professional and Business Association for several years.

He and Tennison moved to Mexico in 2004. The couple had been together more than 40 years. ■

*The story is compiled from reports in the Guadalajara Reporter and the Lake Chalapa Crime Watch.*

## Deaths

**Robert Allan Turnipseed**, 62, formerly of Dallas, was murdered in his home at Riberas del Pilar in Jalisco, Mexico, on Jan. 6 (See related news story in this issue.)

Turnipseed immigrated to the United States from Calgary, Alberta in Canada as a child and grew up in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. He was active in the Stonewall Business and Professional Association in Dallas, a precursor to the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce. He and his partner fulfilled their dream of moving to Mexico in 2004 when they bought a home in the Lake Chapala area.

Turnipseed is survived by his partner of 40 years, Bob Tennison.

**Mark A. Biesen**, 48, died Jan. 10 at Parkland Hospital in Dallas following a prolonged illness.

Born in Indiana, Biesen had lived in the Dallas

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We print notices of deaths of members of the GLBT community at no fee. A questionnaire is available to assist you in organizing the information. Certain information is required. The questionnaire can be e-mailed, faxed or mailed to you. You may supply photos as prints (color or B&W) or scans (min. 300 d.p.i. at 3X5). For more information or to submit a notice, e-mail [nash@dallasvoice.com](mailto:nash@dallasvoice.com) or call 214-754-8710 ext. 128.

area for the past 16-plus years and had worked as a demo specialist at Whole Foods Market in Highland Park. Friends remember him as a very kind and

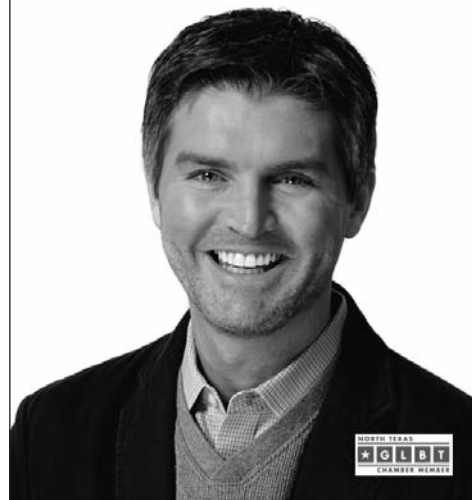
gentle person with an amazing spirit. Guests to and his coworkers at Whole Foods Market loved him very much and will remember him always for his sense of humor and good-natured spirit.

Biesen is survived by one sister and two brothers, all of Indiana.

A memorial service is set for 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29, at Unity Church of Dallas, 6525 Forest Lane. ■

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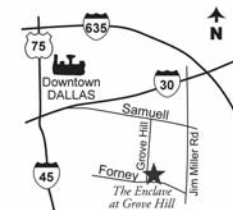
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**30TH ANNIVERSARY** | Nan Arnold and Ron Guillard chaired the 2010 Black Tie Dinner that distributed more than \$1 million to 20 beneficiaries.

**BTD**

From Page 4

U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin was the headliner of the 2010 Black Tie Dinner. Others that have appeared include Gov. Ann Richards, Maya Angelou, Lily Tomlin, Martin Sheen and Gavin Newsom.

The dinner committee honors individuals and corporations that have made contributions to the fight for LGBT rights both locally and nationally. Rev. Carol West and singer Chely Wright were 2010 recipients. Others have included Elizabeth Taylor, Judy Shepard and Bishop Gene Robinson.

Chris Kouvelis and Nan Arnold are this year's Black Tie Dinner chairs. ■

**DISTRICT 3**

From Page 4

October, allegedly to prevent drilling from becoming an issue in the May election.

Griggs describes District 3 as the donut that surrounds Delia Jasso's compact District 1 donut hole.

Jasso represents much of north Oak Cliff. Neumann represents an area that includes the heavily LGBT-populated neighborhoods of Stevens Park in North Oak Cliff and the Keist Park neighborhoods further south.

Griggs has been active with the Fort Worth Avenue Development Group and the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce and served as Ed Oakley's appointee to the Board of Adjustment.

He believes in development but criticizes the way Dallas often goes for big projects only. While new overpasses across the Trinity River would

help Oak Cliff, Griggs said he worries about the cost of maintaining the faux suspension bridge being built.

In contrast to the way Dallas usually builds, Griggs said he prefers small projects and points to Jack's Backyard as an example of how one person can help transform a neighborhood.

Kathy Jack, owner of Jack's, said, "I couldn't have gotten my business open without him."

The city was preventing Jack from opening the restaurant without a paved parking lot.

Griggs explained that the area has flooding problems and no storm sewers. Paving the lot would have made flooding worse.

Jack finished the lot with gravel over a green product called Gravelpave that allows water to absorb into the ground.

"I went to the city of Dallas and they gave me 10 reasons why we couldn't open," Jack said. "He

■ **DISTRICT 3**, Page 11



## DISTRICT 3

From Page 10

went to the city of Dallas with me and they approved my parking lot."

"We always think that the biggest and sexiest development is best," Griggs said. "But if you look at what happened with Bishop Arts, the city went in and invested \$2.6 million."

The city added parking, trees, wider sidewalks, crosswalks and enhanced pavement, he said, which made pedestrians feel welcome.

"Property values immediately adjacent to the improvements — 10 years ago the property was worth \$1.7 million," he said. "Now it's worth \$6.2 million. We've had 13 percent increase steady through two recessions."

The city makes more money in Bishop Arts now on a Saturday night from taxes on alcohol sales than they did before with a year of property taxes, Griggs said.

He said that the success of the area is not being copied anywhere else in the city.

"Those are the types of revenue solutions we need to look at in these tough times," he said. "Something Dallas has never looked at — small investments. We don't do little. We're all big and sexy."

"We think it's an accident," Griggs said of the success in Bishop Arts. "We think it's quaint and it's cute. It's just an old streetcar neighborhood and we have those throughout the area."

But, he said, the area's success can be replicated.

Griggs mentioned that adding bike racks has brought additional traffic to Bishop Arts. He said he supports the plan to add bike lanes to streets and is a supporter of Bike Friendly Oak Cliff, a neighborhood group that encourages bike riding.

He also supports the extension of the trolley line across the Houston Street Viaduct and across Davis Street. Grants for the extension were obtained despite Neumann's refusal to sign onto the project, Griggs said.

He charges Neumann with blocking other development in the area by moving money out of designated funds into the general fund, including rebuilding the pergola at Kiest Park and cleaning up the Hensley Field Naval Air Station, also within the district.

Griggs is married but counts the LGBT community as part of the base of his support.

Joseph Hernandez ran against Neumann in 2007. He served on the Landmark Commission and has known Griggs through their work at the city for eight years.

"The gay community is very tight knit and engaged and we know who our supporters are," Hernandez said. "I believe he's an advocate for us and would be very inclusive."

Susan Melnick, who lives in District 3, said, "He and his wife are very progressive and he thinks outside the box."

She called him thoughtful.

"Scott's not going to just jump on the bandwagon," she said. "He's going to do his homework."

Melnick said she believes Griggs would always be very inclusive of the LGBT community.

"He's always had gay and straight friends," she

said. "He's very low-key. No ego there. I just adore him."

Former Dallas Independent School Board member Jose Plata lives in the District and said he hasn't been pleased with the representation of the incumbent and so is backing Griggs.

"Scott has a strong mind about strong neighborhoods," Plata said. "Scott understands issues and would be a good spokesperson for the gay community." ■

## COX

From Page 4

SMU's Simmons School of Education and Human Development. In 1999, Cox received the Kuchling Humanitarian Award from the Black Tie Dinner.

Cox is an alumna of both Leadership Dallas and Leadership Lambda, a former board member of the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identification Issues Law Section for the State Bar of Texas, and an attorney licensed in the state of Texas. Prior to joining RCD, Cox was an attorney focused on commercial litigation, bankruptcy, municipal law and commercial transactions. She is a volunteer attorney for Legal Hospice of Texas.

Cox earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Northwestern University and a law degree from SMU. She is the mother of a 12-year-old son and the partner of Judge Barbara J. Houser. ■



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**ALL THIS**

From Page 1

quotes from his heroes, and he often ends a thought with his go-to mantra: "All this, that and the other."

But it is a wealth of passion and history that marks Steward as a visionary.

As the cofounder of the Fahari Arts Institute and the performing arts administrator at the South Dallas Cultural Center, Steward is in prime position to shape Dallas' appreciation of its queer-identified African-American community and the arts that come out of it.

The road to Fahari began via his work at the SDCC. Queer artists constantly approached Steward about using the center as an outlet for their talents. In turn, arts organizations asked for references of artists to include in their shows or exhibits.

As the accidental conduit, Steward began looking for a solution.

"There was this disconnect. I wondered if I could be satisfied as a consultant and place people where they needed to be," he said.

"There had to be a better way for this, but that led to me asking myself 'What does a black, queer, LGBT arts organization look like?' There couldn't be much out there since I hadn't heard about it."

As it turned out, he was wrong — and gladly so.

In Steward's research, he uncovered an entire culture of art and artists that overwhelmed him. He found movements that equated to a new renaissance.

A domino effect of research happened as he learned about one dancer that led to a singer that then led to writers, and so forth. This not only nurtured the seed of an arts organization, it spoke to Steward himself.

"Finding so much history was affirming for me as an artist, and if I'm having this kind of experience finding these works, other people would too," he said. "At the same time, I'm very comfortable in my position at the SDCC, so making Fahari happen wasn't at the forefront."

Steward grew up in the Singing Hills neighborhood in Dallas' southern sector as the seventh of eight children. Instead of spending all his time

playing on Sega or Nintendo like other kids, he spent his time demonstrating his artistic talents by drawing on the bathroom wall with his mother's lipstick. And his parents encouraged his art — or he recalls it that way.

"First of all, I am a product of public schools when they worked, and I had teachers who cared," Steward said. "I used to cover the whole wall with my imaginary thoughts. I think they [his parents] believed in me, even if they didn't vocalize it, because they saw their child's imagination at work."

Steward didn't discover his sexuality until middle school athletics, and despite moving over to the embracing arms of Booker T. Washington arts magnet high school — where Steward found a mentor in his teacher, Vicki Washington-Nance — he struggled with being gay until his early 20s.

He had always been fascinated by his black culture, but hadn't resolved his place as a gay man.

"I had a certain level of understanding in reading black literature. It was always a conscious thought to immerse myself in that," he said. "Gay culture is something relatively new to me, but I saw a lot of parallel in my experience with the community."

When Steward began his research, all of his personal influences and heroes, such as James Baldwin, Langston Hughes and Alice Walker, were gay. When he discovered Haitian gay poet Assotto Saint, Steward found what he needed to proceed with Fahari.

"Saint talked about the importance of building cultural institutions and publishing houses and making sure they are not self-serving and they should out live you as a person," Steward said. "He said we had to do this."

Enter J.W. Richard.

Steward and Richard were acquainted because Richard had interviewed Vicki Meek, the director of the SDCC, on his Mandrake Society Radio program. Richard was in tune with the arts scene, as was Steward, but in varying degrees.

While Steward participated in the arts more, Richard highlighted and reported on them via his podcast. But Richard was more involved in political activism.

"When he [Steward] talked to me about the idea, it was on a learning curve and it still is,"

**FAHARI ARTS INSTITUTE SCHEDULE**

Fahari's season runs from August through July. These events are on schedule for the remainder of the 2010-2011 season:

- Queerly Speaking is held every fourth Friday and offers a theme each month. January's theme is "Resolutions." South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. Sign-up at 8 p.m., show at 9 p.m. \$5. The next event will be held Feb. 25.
  - The Marlon Riggs Film Festival will be held Feb. 18-20 at the SDCC. Fahari's Arts and AIDS series will be part of the festival.
  - After the festival, the Queer Film Series returns every third Sunday at the SDCC at 3 p.m. The next event will be held Mar. 20. \$5.
  - (Queer)Note Lecture Series presents Kenyon Farrow: Moving Towards a True Black Queer Liberation AIDS Activism and Beyond. The executive director of Queers for Economic Justice comes to discuss his work with HIV/AIDS and homophobia and his advocacy for low-income and working class LGBT communities. April 21. 7 p.m. KenyonFarrow.com.
  - Positive Eyes, a photography exhibit features works of black gay-positive amateur photographers. This is part of Fahari's Arts and AIDS series. Place to be determined. April 29.
  - The season closes with Fahari Fierce: A Celebration of Movement, a dance production. Latino Cultural Center, 2600 Live Oak St. 8 p.m.
- Additional programming and monthly themes are listed on the Fahari website. All events are subject to venue and time changes. Visit [FahariArtsInstitute.org](http://FahariArtsInstitute.org) for updated information.

Richard said. "I had not directly worked with anything much on the arts level even though I am an artist myself. This was such a unique opportunity."

One thing was hanging on Steward's mind. After the Harris memorial, he was intent on naming the still-forming idea of this nebulous arts organization. Perhaps giving it a name would give it weight, but he knew it needed to express so much in minimal fashion.

"I had been thinking about the program and titles are so important. And it is so easy to get tripped up on the right name," he said. "We had names like Rainbow Connection but stuff like that is so played out. Fahari means 'pride' in Swahili. I wanted it to have a connection to our African community and it was perfect for, you know, all this, that and the other."

Two guys, one idea — now came the hard part.

While Richard and Steward figured out what Fahari should offer, the answer unfolded amid Steward's love life. He was dating a poet, which drew him back into that scene of spoken word and slam poets, but it wasn't one he liked all that much.

"It had become so sexist and misogynistic and that environment isn't right," Steward said. "So I wondered what a same-gender-loving-affirming event would look like?"


Queerly Speaking, a monthly event held on the fourth Friday, grew into such a success that it moved from its original home at the Backbeat Café downtown into the more accommodating SDCC. The growth was symbolic of a hunger for something more, whether it was in the gay community at large or in just a slice of the whole.

Fahari was onto something when the crowds showed up that were also unfamiliar to Steward and Richard. The impact began immediately.

But Steward acknowledges one important thing: He wasn't the first. In Dallas' history, many black organizations were making strides for their LGBT communities, such as the Legacy of Success and the DFW Senators. Without them or his heroes, Fahari may never have come into existence.


Steward expounded at length as if he felt the need to put his gratitude and sense of indebtedness out into the universe.

■ **ALL THIS**, Page 14




**Steven M. Pounders, M.D.**  
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**LADIES IN HIS LIFE** | Steward pals around with his South Dallas Cultural Center director and boss, Vicki Meek and mentors Marilyn Clark and Vicki Washington-Nance. (Photo courtesy of Harold Steward).

**ALL THIS**  
 From Page 12

"I stand on the shoulders of giants," he said. "The work they did set a platform, and if I'm able to be here, being interviewed about this work, it is a direct relation to their efforts.

"One of my things is to get black people to arrive and be known for our value. What would America and the world look like with no Alvin Ailey, no *Color Purple*, no Harlem Renaissance? Take all that way and people will understand who we are and what we bring," he added. "I am standing on their shoulders because it is my responsibility."

Steward didn't realize that Fahari would hit the ground running although there was some personal frustration behind it. He tried to reconcile why Fahari had to happen now.

"It should not have emerged in 2009 as an entity in Dallas when it's had such a history," he said. "It is troubling when we're the 'first black' this or that. When are we not going to be the first? But the stuff others and we are doing now is easy compared to what those before us did. See? It always ties to the history."

Fahari's other monthly event is the Queer Film Series every third Sunday that works in association with Black Cinematheque.

Local filmmaker Q-Roc Ragsdale was trying to start a film series highlighting queer directors. When Steward mentioned Fahari to her, the wheels turned. She became a key member, joining Richard and Steward to finish out the troika that pushed Fahari forward.

"It really was a marriage made in heaven," Ragsdale said. "When the film series came to the point where I turned it over to Fahari, I knew it would be great. I still act as the curator and now so many black queer filmmakers will get some needed exposure."

Born from that, two film festivals were added

to its special programming: The Marlon Riggs Film Festival and Short and Sweet.

The latter is intended to open this summer featuring short films. The Riggs festival is a three-day event that had a successful run its first time out in February 2010.

The Fort Worth-born Riggs had profound impact with his revolutionary films giving black queer culture an identity, and that made an impression on Steward's mission.

"I have these moments where I'm watching his film *Black Is Black Ain't* and Riggs is on his deathbed due to complications from AIDS," Steward said. "He says, on his deathbed, 'as long as I have work, I am not dead.' I couldn't crucify or kill him all over again by not bringing his work to the forefront. AIDS wasn't the end of him because in the end, his work will live on. I have to take up that personal charge."

For Ragsdale, Steward symbolized something beyond the work he's doing at this moment. This is more than just about Dallas' black gay culture, it's about the bigger picture.

"I really value him as a leader because he has extraordinary vision and great purpose," she said. "The thing I love is how he makes sure Fahari is inclusive and so he actively invites lesbians, bisexuals, transgenders and allies to the events and to the table.

"I foresee him being a leader in the overall queer community."

Just don't tell Steward that. If it were up to him, he'd likely return to his research, spending his late nights soaking in the history he so loves.

"I struggle with stuff like that, but I think of George Washington Carver. He said to start with what you have, make something of it and never settle," Steward said. "I don't know why it's me in this position. There are days when I wanna throw my hands up, but I have to remember somebody paid the price for me to be here and so with that reason I do ask, 'Why not me?'" ■



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## businessnews

# From coffee to martinis, Buli gets a makeover

Cafe owner hopes change to Shakers piano bar brings more people back to Cedar Springs

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Scott Whittall hoped to have his new piano bar Shakers open on Cedar Springs Road by February, but new Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission rules kicked in recently and have delayed the process.

Now, before a license application process begins, a sign announcing the application must be posted for 60 days.

That sign is now posted in the front window of Buli, which will become Shakers. Whittall said he is hoping for a May opening.

The name Buli will be retired, Whittall said. The new name of the larger space will be Shakers. Whittall said it will be a piano bar, but food will be served, too.

Once the 60-day waiting period ends, the application process begins. Previously, the sign didn't have to be posted until the process began.

Further delays could result from the flood of new applications TABC has received as a result of the wet/dry election in Dallas County in November. More than 50 locations have already applied for licenses in Oak Cliff. Only a few have been approved so far.

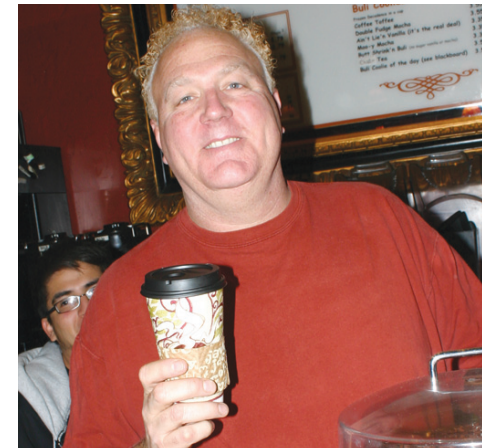
Whittall and his partner, Alan Goode, have already signed a lease on the property next to Buli that was formerly occupied by Zen Clips. The two spaces have been listed as one by the city since the early 1990s when Oak Lawn Flower Mart occupied both. Whittall hopes that will speed the permitting process for renovations.

Whittall said business on Cedar Springs was up and down. He hoped that Shakers would attract a larger crowd.

Hours of operation haven't been decided, Whittall said, but the bar would remain open until 2 a.m. Food would be a part of the mix, he said, but sandwiches served in lunch boxes would probably go away.

"We want to bring it up a level," he said.

The Zen Clips space gives the new business a back entrance opening to the parking lots. And while interior plans are not finalized, Whittall said he expected the bar to be where the serving counter now stands and the stage



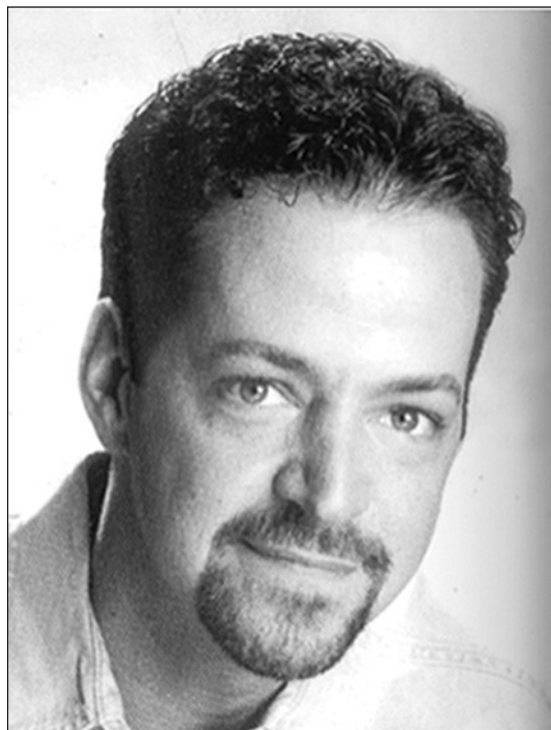
Scott Whittall

will be in the new space. The patio will be extended and partially enclosed.

While owners are wading through the approval process for a liquor license, Buli will remain open, serving food and coffee.

The piano bar format has been a staple on Cedar Springs for years. Alexandre's was the last with a piano. Before that, Michaels, which was in the building now occupied by Woody's,

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# Financial planner offers special advice for special circumstances

Wells Fargo financial planner helps same-sex couples navigate complicated situations that come with not being federally recognized

**DAVID TAFFET** | Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

After recognizing the need for certified financial planners specializing in same-sex couples, officials with Wells Fargo approached the College for Financial Planning. In 2010, the designation was established and for now Wells Fargo Advisors has an exclusive on planners who are accredited domestic partner advisors.

Terry Thompkins is one of just six accredited domestic partner advisors in the Dallas area.

"It's no coincidence the bank's based in San Francisco," Thompkins said.

Thompkins first recognized the need when he was working with two widows who chose not to remarry, primarily for pension reasons.

"I quickly realized that here's a community that's horribly underserved," he said.

On Feb. 1, Thompkins is offering a financial planning seminar for same-sex couples. He said he had nothing to sell but is looking for couples that would benefit from working with him.

"I'm looking to establish long-term relationships," Thompkins said, adding that he is as interested in younger couples beginning to build their wealth as in established couples with multi-million dollar portfolios.

"Anyone who is not recognized by the federal government creates challenges, and nightmare scenarios can develop," Thompkins said.

That creates tax issues but can also present tax opportunities, he said. Having accounts structured properly as well as having legal paperwork in

place can prevent families from challenging wills and estates after a partner dies.

"That's so important when someone is also dealing with their grief," Thompkins said.

He said a common problem he faces with couples is when one is an aggressive investor and the other is conservative. In that case, Thompkins must form an investment strategy that allows that two portfolios to work together.

Thompkins said clients do not come to him because they need a stockbroker. He said he has a wide range of investment vehicles from traditional banking products to commodities and futures. "I have a huge pallet available to me," he said.

He said that for a couple with a small business, he can talk to the bank's commercial lending group and the small business group. When those don't work, he can access tools like collateralizing exist-

ing assets.

But he said that shouldn't scare off couples with fewer assets. He not only wants to help couples make a strong plan stronger. Young couples should get on the right track and build huge wealth down the road.

Financial Planning Seminar at *Chocolate Secrets*, 3926 Oak Lawn Ave. Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m. 972-728-3110. Reservations required.

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## MAKEOVER

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was a popular piano bar.

Pekers on Oak Lawn Avenue has live entertainment with Gary Poe performing at the piano every Friday night.

Bill's Hideaway on Buena Vista Avenue closed in 2009. Lonzie Hershner, who operates the Tin Room and Drama Room, has leased the space and is doing extensive renovations.

He said that he is just beginning the liquor and dance hall application process.

Hershner said he plans to open the patio during the day serving smoothies with water for pets hoping to attract people coming off the Katy Trail. His vision is for the front house to be a piano-jazz bar.

Hershner said the bar will be named Marty's Hideaway in memory of his brother, who opened the other two bars and died suddenly last year.



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# Blogging and the death of civil discourse

When you can comment anonymously and don't have to talk face to face, it becomes too easy to attack each other

I sometimes wonder if the blogosphere was designed for a class of people that enjoys animal fights over a good movie or a football game. That's what the blogs of practically all publications often resemble today — a dogfight between readers and journalists, readers and readers and even journalists and journalists.

There's something about the ability to instantly lash out at another person without having to look them in the eye that generates written warfare on blogs' comments sections. The added benefit of being able to exchange written blows without the writers providing full names or even first names seems to make going to battle even more inviting.

The blog spectacles draw crowds of invisible observers sitting in front of their monitors watching the warriors and cheering them on to more aggression. Occasionally, the observers get so caught up in the action that they even get drawn into it.

It's turned out to be a highly contagious atmosphere, and journalists themselves have become infected with some of the more severe cases of what I'm calling blogoitis.

One of the more spectacular blog slugouts in Dallas occurred about four years ago between two high-profile columnists from competing publications. The gentlemen, both of whom I'm acquainted with in a casual sort of way, let loose on each other like it was World War III — and the plan was for no one to be left standing.

The funny part about it was that both writers are pretty laid back individuals that in person seem incapable of such hostility.

And on Dallas Voice's blog, Instant Tea, there have been countless battles waged between all of the parties I mentioned above. I admit to suc-

cumbing to it myself in more than one category.

Given that no one is actually getting physically bludgeoned, it might seem almost harmless — if it were not for the resulting complications. It's one of the laws of the universe: According to one of Newton's laws of physics, "Every action is accompanied by a reaction of equal magnitude but opposite direction."

In that regard, I think we're probably seeing a chilling effect arising. I've had journalists and readers tell me the experience of a blog fight had left them feeling bad for several days. If a journalist or a reader knows that their words will result in an immediate, symbolic public stoning, it could easily lead anyone to keep their opinions to themselves.

Since the relevantly recent birth of the Internet's blogosphere, the phenomena of cyber-bullying has also developed. One example of it is the presence of activist groups that maintain e-mail lists for the purpose of launching campaigns to flood blogs with complaints anytime something is written that they don't like.

I've had a few unpleasant, unforgettable experiences with that.

I wrote a column last year that a group of activists didn't like. One of the members of the

group admitted to me that he had heard about the column over dinner one night and immediately launched an e-mail campaign against me without even reading the column. He told me about it because after looking at my blog and seeing how supportive I had been of his group over the years, he actually read the column and then decided to call off the dogs.

Unfortunately, the damage had already been done. It appeared that most of the people who sent complaining e-mails also hadn't read my column. In fact, they so distorted what I had written, that even I was becoming unsure of what I had actually said.

In any event, criticism does come with the territory for anyone who steps into the public domain, so none of this is meant to imply that criticism and debate shouldn't take



**David Webb**  
Special Contributor

place.

But it does seem like everyone, myself included, should think about what they are writing before posting a comment on a blog — and then strive to be respectful. Otherwise, it's just too easy to write something that is unfair and could be regretted later.

*David Webb is a former staff writer for the Dallas Voice. E-mail him at davidwaynewebb@yahoo.com.*

## Every family deserves equal access to housing, including LGBT families

*Editor's note: The following article was submitted by U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Shaun Donovan in the wake of last week's announcement that HUD has proposed new rules ensuring that LGBT families will not face discrimination in access to housing.*

Martin Luther King Jr. famously said that "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice." Last month, we were reminded of Dr. King's insight once again, as President Obama signed legislation repealing "don't ask, don't tell" into law.

It was a moment, the President noted, "more than two centuries in the making."

The historic repeal of DADT is only one part of the Obama administration's larger fight on behalf of the LGBT community. Whether it is giving same-sex couples hospital visitation rights or ensuring federal workers can afford long-term care for their partners, this administration is committed to fighting discrimination against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.

I'm proud that the Department of Housing and Urban Development is part of that commitment, as we work to make inclusivity and diversity cornerstones of America's housing policy.

Indeed, from conducting the first-ever national

study of LGBT housing discrimination to instructing our staff to be vigilant about whether any LGBT-based housing discrimination complaints can be pursued through the Fair Housing Act, we've worked to ensure our core housing programs are open to all.

That's why we recently announced a new rule ensuring LGBT individuals and couples can benefit from HUD programs.

Our proposed regulations will make clear that the term "family" includes LGBT individuals and couples as eligible beneficiaries of our public housing and Housing Choice Voucher programs.

Unfortunately, while HUD programs are designed and administered to provide a decent home for every American, we've seen evidence that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals and families are being arbitrarily excluded from some housing opportunities.

For instance, two years ago Michelle DeShane, a lesbian, wanted to add her partner Mitch, a transgender male, to her housing voucher. The local housing authority denied her request because the couple did not meet its definition of "family."

The housing authority then referred the couple

■ HUD, Page 19



# Feedback

## Credit where credit is due

I am just wondering why there hasn't been at least an update on Instant Tea about the Dallas Morning News showing Jack Evans and George Harris as their "True Romance" couple. (You may want to check it out at [dallasnews.com](http://dallasnews.com).)

It seems that you/we are quick to whine and complain about things like the Morning News not publishing gay weddings, but slow to pick up on it and give a shout out or "atta boy" when they do something that is positive to the gay community.

Just saying.  
Paul Ryan, via e-mail

## Setting the record straight on Queertopia

Regarding the article "Queertopia," about San Francisco in the Travel section of the Jan. 21 issue of Dallas Voice:

Nice article, but some wrong statements. Harvey Milk did not bring gays to San Francisco. He arrived after the 1950s-1970s crest of gay immigration as gays fled Texas, Florida and other Republican enclaves.

Milk simply tried to organize the thousands of gays who were living in San Francisco after World War II on through Vietnam, which did not end until 1975.

As a matter of fact, Milk was considered a late-comer and was elected fairly much by default in the San Francisco electoral system.

For fact-checked info on San Francisco, please visit [www.JackFritscher.com](http://www.JackFritscher.com). I am a gay San Francisco historian and the founding San Francisco editor of Drummer, San Francisco's longest running magazine (1975-1999). My award-winning GLBT history book about this period is titled Gay San Francisco. It is available at Amazon as well as in a series of green pdfs available free to all at my website.

If you have any questions on this or future articles on San Francisco, please feel free to get in touch. As a magazine editor, I can only applaud your ongoing work.

Jack Fritscher, via e-mail

## Fitzy's story: Out of the darkness

Fitzy, I am so proud of you. It takes a lot of courage to give this kind of interview and put yourself out there like that. I am so glad you did it. People need to know they're not alone. You are truly a personal hero. I look up to you so much. Your courage and strength inspire me to be stronger. I love you so much!

Jessica Short, via [DallasVoice.com](http://DallasVoice.com)

Having known Fitzy since he was 14, I must say he has been the epitome of grace and courage while enduring a society that has been hesitant to understand him. Not only has he discovered healthy coping mechanisms, but he also is a fantastic role model for other youth who are struggling. I have witnessed him inspire others by being his genuine self. I believe we can all learn something from his story. We are so proud of you, Fitzy. Thanks for sharing your journey, as you are one of my personal heroes in this life.

Judith Dumont, via [DallasVoice.com](http://DallasVoice.com)

Fitzy, I admire the strength and courage that you showed in being who you are and not letting

anyone or anything change that.

You are a hero and an inspiration to the people who have been there and those who are there now.

I believe people can make a positive difference in other people's lives through their actions and choices.

Keep up the good work and your wonderful labor of love. And may you continue to touch many hearts and many lives for many, many years to come.

Linda Hale, via [DallasVoice.com](http://DallasVoice.com)

## HUD

From Page 18

to a neighboring housing authority — because, as they were apparently told, the neighboring housing authority "accepts everyone — even Martians."

That's not right. No one should be subject to that kind of treatment or denied access to federal housing assistance because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

And so, through this proposed rule, the Obama administration is ensuring that when it comes to housing assistance funded with taxpayer dollars, they won't be.

Specifically, it adds "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" to the list of definitions applicable to HUD programs. It clarifies HUD regulations to ensure that all eligible families have the opportunity to participate in HUD programs regardless of marital status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

And it prohibits inquiries regarding sexual orientation or gender identity and makes clear that gender identity and sexual orientation should not and cannot be part of any lending decision when it comes to getting an FHA-insured mortgage.

Every American family should have the opportunity to make a home for themselves free from discrimination. That is why this rule is so important — and it's why all of us at HUD are so proud to announce it.

Shaun Donovan is the U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

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### RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK'S POLL:

Who's your favorite Village People fantasy character?

- Cop: 13 percent
- Leatherman: 16 percent
- Cowboy: 11 percent
- Construction worker: 30 percent
- G.I.: 6 percent
- American Indian: 24 percent

128 Votes cast



# Music. Score!

Musicians including **Cazwell** and **Jeff Olson** of the Village People head to Texas for a big gay Super Bowl party — although neither is all that excited about the game

NORTH TEXAS 2011  
**SUPER BOWL  
COVERAGE**

**THE BOI AND THE COWBOY** | Generations collide when Cazwell and Cowboy Jeff Olson of the Village People bring their very gay music to the Cotton Bowl Thursday.



## All's well that Cazwell

Who knew it just takes a popsicle to rise to stardom? Just ask Katy Perry. Or Cazwell, whose colorful music video for "Ice Cream Truck" became *the* gay anthem of last summer. With hot dancers and sexualized frozen confections, it has an infectious beat and a sense of joy that combined to make it a huge hit for the artist.

Just don't expect the Ice Cream Truck Boys to join Cazwell when he's in town next week for XLV Party, a three-day event inside a 60,000-square-foot climate-controlled tent on the field of the Cotton Bowl. The festivities kick off with a super-gay night of entertainment on Thursday. And even with the likes of Lady Bunny, DJ Inferno and the iconic Village People sharing stage time, Cazwell plans to bring it.

Describing himself as what would result if Biggie Smalls ate Donna Summer, Cazwell has combined the energy of dance music with the soul of hip-hop for a fun, modern sound that is all about getting people to have fun and dance.

"I'm going to turn it out. It's going to be a high-energy show," he says. "I'm going to do a combination of my dance songs but I also just want to kick back and wrestle with some beats and some rhymes. I think people will get to know me a little better as an artist."

XLV Party will mark Cazwell's second appearance in Dallas in less than a year and he's anxious to come back.

"I was in Dallas last summer. It was really, re-

ally good. I was very surprised by the turnout. I wasn't expecting so many fans," he says. "We did a meet-and-greet that lasted three hours."

His fan base has grown exponentially since "Ice Cream Truck," but he still remembers the days when even Lady Gaga couldn't get a reaction from a New York crowd.

"We did a song together at a club called Family. She'd always been kind of eccentric, but really down-to-earth. We had this stage that was like the size of a door, but she took it seriously. She crammed two dancers up there and then I got up there and she said, 'I'm going to throw you to the ground and ride you like I'm fucking you and the audience is going to go crazy,'" he recalls. The gimmick landed with a thud.

"Somewhere there's footage of it, but I can't find it. The funny thing about it is that we really didn't get the reaction we thought we were going to get. Nobody knew who she was so they just kind of looked at us with their arms folded. Like great, here's another club kid with a song. Six months later, everybody knew who Lady Gaga was."

Cazwell has garnered a loyal following on the New York club scene and has broken out with hit songs like, "I Seen Beyonce at Burger King" and "All Over Your Face," but "Ice Cream Truck" is really where things clicked with a larger audience. And it almost didn't happen.

"I didn't want to write a new song; I was feeling really lazy. But a friend was pressuring me," he says. "I wrote it for this movie called *Spork*,

which won a bunch of awards for the Tribeca Film Festival and is going nationwide in May. My friend said he wanted a beat that sounded like an ice cream truck. We did the whole thing in like 45 minutes. It was just really, really easy."

He wasn't going to do anything with it until his manager suggested he make a quick video "to the song to get my face out there. It made me think of summertime and the hot Latin guys in my neighborhood. We all know a bunch of guys, dancers from the club scene so we invited them all over. No one was paid. We're all friends and they just wanted to be a part of it."

The video became a sensation across Facebook and video sites like YouTube, and with it came legions of new fans. But that's OK ... for now.

"I think that right now I'm in a good time in my life because I think the people that come up to me are genuine fans. I think when you get more famous, people want to meet you just because you're famous. That could get tedious. I'm sure people go up to Lady Gaga just because she's Lady Gaga, not because they respect her music," Cazwell says.

"I feel right now that people are being genuine with me. I hope they're people I've had a positive effect on because when people tell me that, it really makes me feel really good."

And as for his excitement over the Super Bowl? Well, not so much. Cazwell admits he's not a football fan — or a fan of any sport for that matter.

"I'm not passionate about sports at all. I don't get it. I see sports on the news and wonder how

that's a news story. It's just a game!" he says.

That's all right. We see him as more a concessions guy anyway ... like, the ice cream truck.

— Steven Lindsey

## Cowboy up

Despite the cheeky allure of the Village People, the concept band is nothing to laugh at. After 34 years, the quintessential disco band still gets audiences to do the "Y.M.C.A." dance. A Rolling Stone cover, a Walk of Fame star and million-selling albums are nothing to sniff at.

Jeff Olson jumped onboard after the peak of the Village People's popularity in the late 1970s, but he's still enjoying the ride three decades later. "Our first and foremost obligation is to just entertain," he says. "We are obligated to do it and I'd say we do it very well."

As a VP veteran, Olson sounds less like a music star and more like an elder slacker. He has a relaxed, cool inflection as he talks up his favorite classic rock bands and will say "man" after most everything. He's the kind of guy you could kill a few hours with, as long as a beer and maybe something to smoke are handy.

The People don't talk much about the sexuality of its members, but it's hard to ignore the impact the group had on the gay community in the '70s. After the band floundered in the '80s when Olson joined to replace original VP Cowboy Randy Jones, the gay audience stuck around.

"I don't think we've had any change with the gay fans. They have always been very loyal and we're still very grateful about that," he says.





"We've done lots to increase our other fans but really, nobody gives a shoot. Who cares anymore about gay or straight thing? We're on this earth for very short time."

At 60, Olson feels great and is obviously in shape to do the dance moves, but if it were up to him, he'd stay home. Still, the fans drive him to keep entertaining.

"I hate being on the road," he admits. "When you live out of a suitcase, so much sucks like trying to get through TSA these days. I love being home, but we really love what we do."

Where each Village Person represented a distinctive male archetype of gay fantasy, Olson is coy about the popularity of his cowboy image — though as any weekend at the Round-Up Saloon would prove, cowboys are a sexy commodity in Dallas. Olson won't say if his cowboy is more popular with the boys than the others, but he lets out what sounds like a proud chuckle.

"Honestly I do not know and I don't care," he says. "The audiences react differently to all of us. We're introduced individually so the reaction changes all the time. It's always all good."

The irony of Olson coming with the Village People for the very gay night of the Super Bowl party is that sports and crowds aren't his thing.

"Nah, I don't follow football," he says. "And you wanna know a secret? I'm paranoid about crowds. I don't do well with them and I need space. I don't like signing autographs because folks don't do the things they should do as a human being. But one on one I'm good with."

Despite getting a few things off his chest, Olson mostly wants to remind that the Village People don't necessarily stand for anything ... but they will make you dance. ■

— Rich Lopez



### Party all night

Cazwell and the Village People are hardly the entire lineup. When they made this the gay night of the XLV Party, they weren't kidding. The roster holds up pretty nicely.

**Lady Bunny** is a drag queen icon right there next to RuPaul. Whether she's doing her comedy schtick or DJing, she definitely amps up the fabulousness.

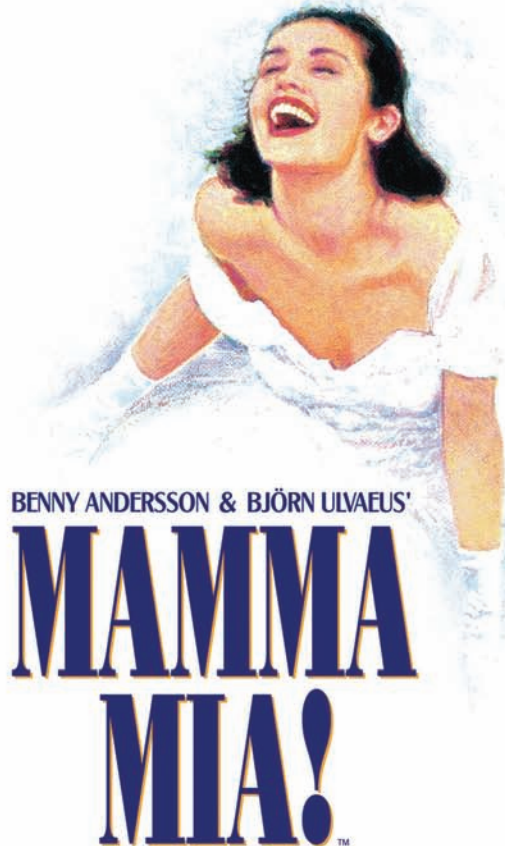
Half of the pseudo-lesbian Russian duo t.A.T.u. will perform. **Lena Katina** brings her sultry ways in solo form Thursday night.

DJs **Enferno** and **Hector Fonseca** round out the bill. Enferno has with Madonna on her Sticky and Sweet Tour not only sampling the show, but arranging music as well. Fonseca, pictured, was voted hottest DJ by Out magazine in 2007 and has headlined many of the bigger gay circuit parties throughout the world.

— Rich Lopez

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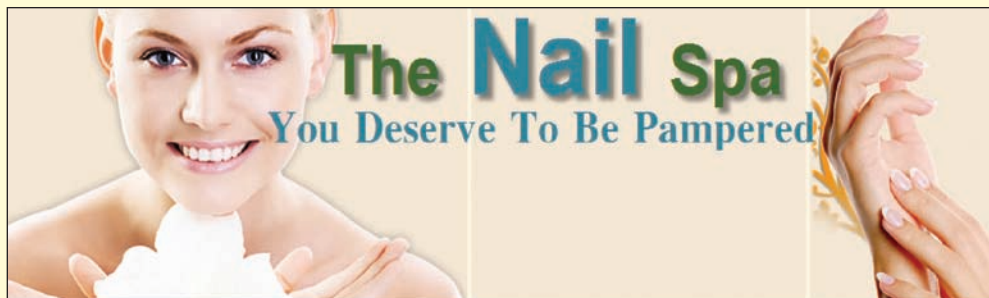


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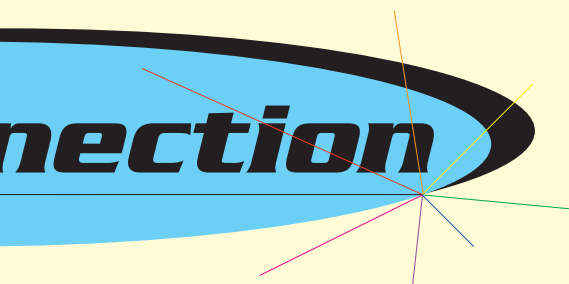
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**SUGAR SHOCK** | Minnig, left, and Dobbratz bring a different kind of sexy back to the men of Dallas.

# Sweet tooth

Touring this time holds a lot less pressure for Sugar & Gold's Philipp Minnig

**RICH LOPEZ** | Staff Writer  
lopez@dallasvoice.com

When Philipp Minnig finds downtime between shows on a tour, he mines YouTube. Sometimes the videos serve as a source of inspiration for his music, but mostly, he's just enjoying his free time. His current obsession is in a video which title translates to "The Doctors." This prepares him for the next day's show.

"I'm taking a break today researching," he laughs. "I do have a hard job: Watching videos. But yeah, when we have any kind of downtime, that's pretty much it for me."

The frontman for the duo Sugar and Gold has had a hectic 2011, coming off an already busy 2010. The band toured last year for the disc *Get Wet*, which garnered the dance-rockers some nice acclaim. They turned around to release the EP *Bodyaches* and are back on the road stopping at the Jack Daniel's Saloon this Saturday. Only this time, the two-month tour is less of a job and more of a party.

"When we toured the record we had to do that whole promo push," he says. "After you just finish a record, there is a lot to deal with. Personally I get sick of my face and the record that goes along with it. But this time, we've been having a ball so far."

While Minnig and bandmate Nicolas Dobbratz emphasize fun in their music, there is work to be done. But with an EP that contains two new songs and remixes from *Wet*, S&G didn't have that much pressure with promoting the disc. The tour schedule is short and they planned for the show to be free-flowing.

"This just hasn't been as daunting," Minnig says. "We're having fun with the wardrobe and we're just loose onstage. The music is still tight but the relaxed feeling allows giving better shows with lots of spontaneous energy. And

we're having more fun with the crowds."

A lot of those crowds are primarily gay. S&G has come to be closely identified with LGBT audiences due to their electronic dance grooves and a nebulous masculine tone. S&G are in that some dance rock vein as other gay faves Scissor Sisters and Of Montreal. In fact, the band is closely associated with OM in that musically incestuous way. If members of S&G aren't touring with OM, then members from both are working on their side project Yip Deceiver, which is incidentally the opener for this show.

Minnig, who is straight, can see why LGBT audiences have embraced his band — especially the boys.

"Oh it's wonderful. We're big on male sensuality," he says.

"Our music is about softening the male image and reintroducing sexiness to males. Male doesn't have to be tough and uptight. It feels freeing when males in the audience are responsive to what your doing."

Musically, Minnig comes from that indie queer background. He calls that scene his own and he found his music very active in underground gay communities. And that affects how he writes his tunes.

"To some degree, I toy with side projects and play with other musicians, but S&G is its own beast," he says. "The way we write our music puts an individual spin on things."

Even though he's been feeling good about the chill approach to this mini-tour, Minnig is surprisingly anxious to be done with it. Despite being non-stop the past couple of years, it's like a drug for him to keep going.

"These shows have affected us positively," he says. "Just on this leg, it's such a pleasure hanging out with like-minded, electronically geeky, socially open people and that opens up inspiration. I'm psyched to get to the end of the tour because I wanna write already." ■

#### SUGAR & GOLD

With Yip Deceiver and DJ Trademarx. **Jack Daniel's Saloon**, 1135 S. Lamar St. Jan. 29. Doors at 8 p.m. Free. GilleysMusic.com.





### RICH'S MIXTAPE: SUPER BOWL EDITION

With so many concerts going on during Super Bowl Week, clearly music is just as much a part of the game as the game itself. The Black Eyed Peas, Prince and Duran Duran may rock us out, but try these tunes might get help get your game face on.

**"Lone Star Uprising"** — Hydroponic Sound System: This Dallas band's downtempo dub is more vibe than anthem, but the Bowl is definitely a shining moment for the state ... especially with the Cowboys nowhere in sight.

**"Taxi Cab"** — Vampire Weekend: Going to the actual game? Uh, don't bother driving. By train or by cab, you're better off because parking is going to be a beeyotch.

**"Fair Game"** — The Like: OK, once that coin toss happens, we *do* want good sportsmanship throughout ... whether on the field or during the drinking games.

**"Big Muscle"** — DJ Bill Bennett: Yes, most gay men can't resist some of those beefy players on the field. And since this is pretty much it for the season, this is the time to appreciate and salivate.

**"Another Piece of Meat"** — The Scorpions: Well, they are! See "Big Muscle."

**"Spit in Your Face"** — Kevin Rudolph with Lil Wayne: Just because we want fair, doesn't mean we want wussies out there. A little trash talk is a good thing — gets the blood going.

**"Everything to Lose"** — Dido: Both teams are previous Bowl winners so it's hard to feel sorry for the losers, but there has to be one. Sorry, Steelers.

**"Keep on Runnin'"** — Journey: Those of us watching from the living room will be yelling something like this at the players. And yes, we do yell at the TV. Don't question it.

**"You Lost Me"** — Christina Aguilera, pictured: The *Burlesque* star will be singing the national anthem and for this we are glad. For the inevitable person who doesn't understand the game, asks a bunch of questions and still doesn't get it — well, just play this.

**"Four Minutes"** — Madonna with Justin Timberlake: At some point in the game, there will be four crucial minutes that could make or break either team.

**"You Win Again"** — Jerry Lee Lewis: This is what one coach will say to the other in that mid-way handshake. Either that or something else altogether.

**"Game Over"** — V.V. Brown: Yes, four 15-minute quarters should equal one hour, but don't complain. Just listen to some Christina. Otherwise, after a few hours of game time, rad commercials and snacks, it's time to focus on basketball.

— Rich Lopez

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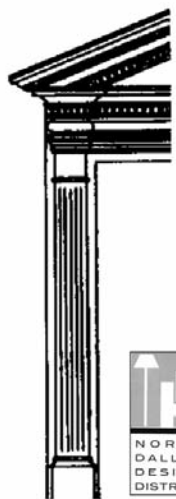
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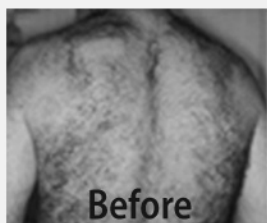
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L+S dining

# Fur is murder

... but eggs are even worse. Mercy for Animals' Daniel Hauff is among the many gay folk passionate about animal rights

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor  
jones@dallasvoice.com



**ANIMAL INSTINCT** | Daniel Hauff equates all livestock to the gentlest house pet. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

In an area of the country where meat consumption and hunting are often equated with American values, taking on an industry can seem like an uphill battle. But it's one Daniel Hauff is happy to fight.

Last week, Hauff — the national director of investigations for Mercy for Animals, the pro-vegan, animal rights group — held a press conference where he reveals horrendous treatment of catfish in local fisheries. He called on the district attorney to take action, and the Texas Legislature to prohibit the vivisection of animals, including fish, in the state.

It's just another day at work for Hauff, whose job is to reveal the truth behind how animals are treated in a variety of contexts.

"Absolutely everything that has to do with protecting animals goes back to an undercover investigation," he says. And he's the one responsible for getting it done.

Eddie Garza, MFA's campaign coordinator in Texas, says there are few people in country who do what Hauff does — and he's probably the only gay person doing it.

"There are a lot of the LGBT community" who are active in protecting animals from cruelty at all levels, Hauff says. MFA itself was founded by a gay 15-year-old, Nathan Runkle, more than a decade ago. Garza is also gay.

"MFA at one point had a campaign coordinator who was transgender. I think a lot of the reason for that is commonality of looking at oppression. I assume a lot has to do with growing up gay and having to deal with people spitting on you for who you are. Putting yourself in someone else's shoes [is common for us], and I am now a lot stronger person for having endured it."

Hauff certainly has the background to give weight to his cause. He attended DePaul University, where he read international studies with a concentration in human rights and social justice. "I was studying genocide and intending to get my hands dirty in human rights work," he says. Instead, he shifted his focus to animal rights.

Hauff had been a vegetarian for several years, starting in high school, but eventually abandoned it. Then in 2005, he saw a video that churned his stomach: A raccoon dog being skinned alive.

"That sort of opened my eyes," he says. "My partner Reeve came home and knew something was wrong. I was actually crying in the alley after I saw that video. I knew that there wasn't a difference between my dogs and the animals we were eating."

It so affected him, Hauff decided to do some-

thing he hadn't before: He went completely vegan overnight. Reeve supported his decision and went vegetarian that week, eventually becoming a vegan as well. (Their pets are also vegan.) And he became active volunteering with Mercy for Animals.

"Within a year I had become so involved with MFA I applied for a job. I decided to do my year in-service for animal rights instead of human rights," Hauff says. He expected the work to be a brief stopover on his path to human genocide studies, but five years later, it's still his profession.

It's not easy work, but it is important — to him and the creatures he seeks to protect.

"The first undercover investigation for MFA that we did that was employment-based," meaning operatives for MFA go undercover in slaughterhouses and other animal-based industries, applying for jobs and then cataloging abuses and law violations. On the last day of the investigation just concluded in Texas, Hauff himself was wired with a hidden camera, interacting with the people in the abattoir (though he admits his duties generally don't put him undercover).

Hauff also works with veterinarians to improve treatment, as well as with Temple Grandin, the advocate for humane treatment of animals celebrated in a recent TV movie. But in truth, Hauff sees everything short of veganism as half-measures.

"Temple reduces suffering, but it's not *kind* in any way. I have never seen an animal going to their death without fighting for their life. We could walk into any slaughterhouse Temple Grandin has designed and still be horrified," he says. "It's often standard practice that we're revealing."

Hauff says he considers the egg and dairy industry far crueler than meat consumption itself. He doesn't expect everyone will ever become a vegan like he is, but that's not really the point.

"There are less cruel ways of doing things," he says. "It's about reducing suffering."

And the more people know, the better they will be about making choices. ■



# Threeppeat?

Dallas has become a player in the international leather scene, and **Scott Moore** hopes to keep the streak alive

**ARNOLD WAYNE JONES** | Life+Style Editor  
jones@dallasvoice.com

Scott Moore has some big boots to fill — and we don't just mean size 13 triple Ds.

In 2008, Dallas' Jeffrey Payne parlayed his Mr. Dallas Eagle leatherman title into Mr. Texas Leather 2009, then went on to score the top international prize: International Mr. Leather. His service was seen as a benchmark for the entire community, and an award was even named after him.

The next year, Dallas' Jack Duke pulled off almost the same feat, going from Mr. Dallas Eagle to Mr. Texas Leather and coming in an impressive third overall at IML.

The Texas leather scene — and more impressively, Dallas' — was on the map for its depth and seriousness.

And that's where Moore has to follow.

He'll slide on his jackboots and strap on his harness this weekend to compete in the 16th annual Texas Leather Weekend, as leatherman from across the state gather in Dallas to celebrate their brotherhood and crown the new Mr. Texas Leather. Whoever wins will go on to Chicago and IML in the spring, but Moore would like for North Texas to represent for a third year in a row ... and, of course, work its way onto the winners' podium.

"It hit home for me after I won Mr. Dallas Eagle and [the Voice] started listing [in Instant Tea] the history of the event, which I knew, but seeing it in print ... well, as you say, I have big boots to fill. Jeffrey was phenomenal and Jack has also done a lot. But for now my goal is not to trip when coming up the stairs or fall off the edge of the stage. The rest will work itself out."

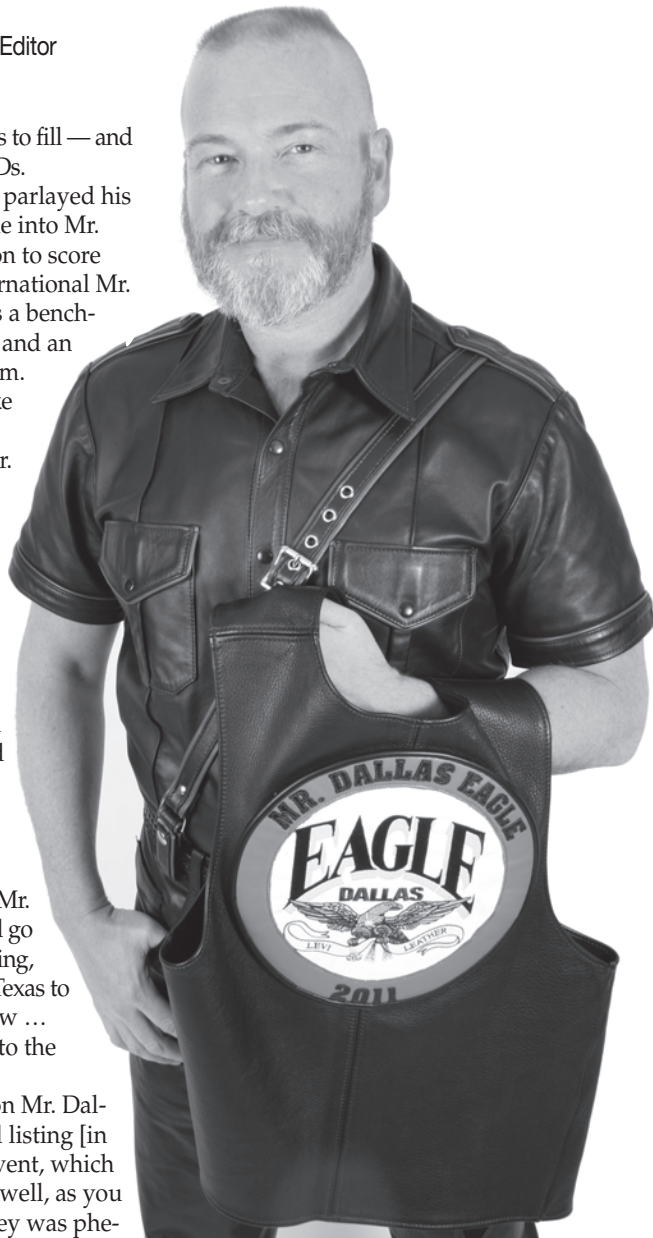
Moore is being modest — this isn't his first time on the runway. A few years ago, he was entered by a friend in the Bear of the Month contest at the Eagle, and eventually went on to be named Mr. TBRU 2007. Still, Mr. Dallas Eagle was the first leather contest he'd ever entered.

It was the culmination of a long journey for him. Moore, 43, started in the leather community 14 years ago when he still lived in San Antonio.

That's when his lover gave him a gift: His first piece of leather.

"It was a harness — I still wear it," he says. "I have been increasingly active ever since."

In fact, it was watching Payne and Duke win — as well as attending IML and other events — that gave him the impetus to seek out the title for himself.



**HELLBENT FOR LEATHER** | Scott Moore has planned for a year to try and repeat the achievements of Dallas leathermen Jeffrey Payne and Jack Duke. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

"I really wanted to get more involved and be part of this brotherhood. It was on my mind for a year. So I read extensively, and have gone to a lot of events. There's quite a bit of preparation.

And it's not a cheap hobby," he says.

When it comes down to it, though, he knows the competition will really just be an opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of the leather community.

"I have met all of my competitors and have a really good group of people but there is no history or drama.

Everyone's advice is to be yourself and have fun. As a contestant, the have fun part is harder. I tend to be a little uptight — it's in my nature. Paranoia helps as an attorney."

Might not be had for a leatherman, either. ■

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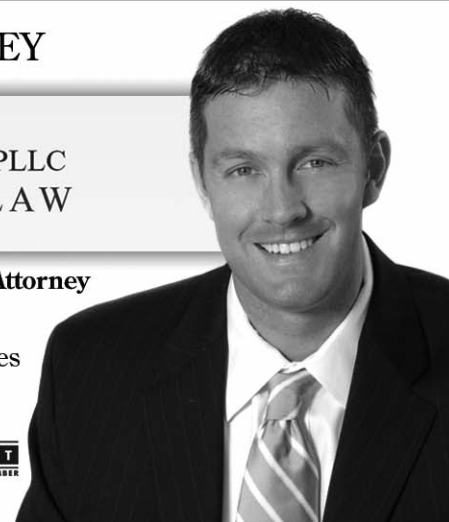
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# Force vs. farce

Sheran Keyton's 'Etta' is a powerhouse; in Arlington, sex is on the plate

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor  
jones@dallasvoice.com

Sheran Goodspeed Keyton has a voice so big, it not only fills the small space of Tuckers' Blues in Deep Ellum, it reverberates until you'd swear she's singing to you in stereo. That she's belting out the songs of Etta James only exaggerates the sound: There's nothing quite as unleashed as a diva playing another diva. It's like getting two performances for the price of one.

All Keyton really needs is more of an audience. Opening night for **Simply Etta** deserved more patrons, be it lovers of theater or just honkytonk denizens who like to groove to James' wide-ranging repertoire: Jazz, blues, pop, standards, rock, gospel. The show — and it is a show, not just a tribute concert, with scripted banter and emotional touchpoints — recounts the life of the woman whose "At Last" will forever leave her in the annals of music.

## ON THE BOARDS

**SIMPLY ETTA** at **Tuckers' Blues**, 2617 Commerce St. Sundays–Mondays through Feb. 14. \$10. 214-744-2583.

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*Simply Etta* is one in a long line of jukebox-style cabaret shows of soulful songs — *Ella*, *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*, *Ain't Misbehavin'* among them — and like those, it depends on the strength of the performer. Keyton has enough strength to launch the space shuttle. Even referring to her script throughout the performance, she has an ease with the music and the character, from her drug addiction to her education among the gay musicians of her day. (She recounts how Etta's platinum blonde look was given to her "by a gay boy" and how Little

Richard's fearless flamboyance inspired her with live-and-let-live joy.)

A Broadway showtune from a few years back counseled that the easy way to get patrons on their feet when you had nothing else was to let a "big black lady stop the show." Good advice. And with *Simply Etta*, the lady also starts it and

carries it through. Hey, you go with what works.

Oh, those silly straight French folk: Hopping faithfully from bed to bed with farcical abandon, always worried that their spouse will discover their infidelities but not so worried they can actually control themselves. (If they really wanna know how to whore it up with an enviable sense of inconsequentiality, they should ask a gay man.)

Theatre Arlington mounts — yes, *mounts* — Marc Camoletti's popular sex farce **Don't Dress for Dinner** with an admirable sense of naughtiness, something you really can't get away from in a show that wears its sex so openly.

Or rather, the *suggestion* of sex. This is more about ribald innuendo that outright humping, with tons of slamming doors and anxious looks. It's foreplay, without an orgasmic finale.

It doesn't make sense why four of the half-dozen characters, all of them living in the French countryside, speak with British accents, but the star of this show, as usual, is the saucy chef



**BEDROOM AHHS** | Three women play musical beds in Theatre Arlington's sex farce 'Don't Dress for Dinner.' (Photo courtesy Eric Younkin)

Suzette. As played by Amber Quinn, she's edgy and smart with an offhanded tolerance for the sex-starved bourgeoisie. She also gets the biggest laughs, though Jeff Swearingen, small and wiry, gives her a run with his clowning. ■

# DALLAS GET YOUR HEART ON

## Volunteer for an HIV vaccine study

[www.ihaveahearton.org](http://www.ihaveahearton.org) 214.590.0610

Volunteers must be men who have sex with men, 18-50, HIV-negative. Visit the website for info.







### QUEER CLIP: 'THE MECHANIC'

It's hard to know whether to be angry at the filmmakers or frustrated with the audience about the gay content in **The Mechanic**. I suppose we should be glad that gays figure *anywhere* in this quickie actioner, even though the portrayal is hardly flattering.

Bishop (Jason Statham, above right), an experienced hitman, is training his protege Steve (Ben Foster, above left) how to take out a rival assassin. Bishop says the bad guy is gay, so Steve — a

twinkie who looks to weigh 95 pounds dripping in paving tar — seduces him. As they begin to undress each other, straight men in the preview audience emitted audible, horrified chants of "Dude!" and "Gross!" and "Ah, shit, man!" (If they were smarter, they'd be quiet and let their girlfriends get turned on.)

It's always a tough call: Do we respect director Simon West for introducing a queer character with a sexual appetite at all, or chastise him for using it like a club, eliciting cheers from the hetero hominids to kill the faggot? Alas, West — director of such detritus as *Con Air* and *The General's Daughter* — is probably not someone worthy of much respect.

The film itself is a breezy 90-minute escapade that doesn't develop much momentum; the climax is planned, executed and con-

cluded is less time than most films would spend setting up the motive of the character. But it does have hottie Statham, star of *The Transporter* movies, shirtless for a bit (alas, his sex scene is with a girl). And of course his Transporter character is gay, according to the director. It's not much to hang your hat on, but we'll take the fantasies as we find them.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

**Two stars.**  
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TARRANT COUNTY 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

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## Saturday 01.29

### Guess that's why they call it the blues

While KERA is holding their pledge drive, KNON is trying to raise money of their own. The station, home to *Lambda Weekly* and *The Jesse Garcia Show*, hosts its 12th Annual Bluesfest with a hefty lineup. But really, you haven't lived until you see R&B legend and Dallas native Bobby Patterson throw it down old-school style. That'll change your life.

**DEETS:** Poor David's Pub, 1313 S. Lamar St. Through Sunday. 3 p.m. \$10. KNON.org.

## Sunday 01.30

### Talk about 'Ovo' the top

In Cirque du Soleil's new show *Ovo*, they create a colorful ecosystem of insects. Only these bugs do crazy acrobatics and contortions. Only Cirque can think so out of the box to make a "world of biodiversity" centered around a mysterious egg and a love story between a ladybug and neighborhood bug.

**DEETS:** Dr. Pepper Arena, 2601 Avenue of the Stars, Frisco. Through Feb. 27. \$45-\$250. CirqueDuSoleil.com

## Tuesday 02.01

### 'Faces' in the crowd

Photographer Jorge Rivas' *Faces of Life* was such a hit at last year's Pride that the campaign is being relaunched during ilume Gallerie's Super Week. With new photos and an exclusive jewelry line, the gallery extends its hours so everyone can take a peek and sign up for their own photo session.

**DEETS:** ilume Gallerie, 4123 Cedar Springs Road. Through Saturday. FacesofLifeProject.com.



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# Erika Jayne

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"Roller Coaster"  
"Give You Everything"  
"Pretty Mess"  
"Stars"



**Erika Jayne**  
**Friday Feb. 4**  
**at midnight**



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## FRIDAY 01.28

## COMMUNITY

**FUSE** drop-in weekdays for gay and bi guys up to 29. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. Tuesdays–Fridays at 2 p.m. GetYourFuseOn.com.

**Congregation Beth El Binah** Shabbat service. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7:30 p.m. 214-521-5342 ext. 1784.

**Business Network Collin County** luncheon. Fox Sports Grille, 5741 Legacy Drive, Plano. 11:30 a.m. \$20. BusinessNetworkCC.org.

## THEATER

**Daddy's Dyin': Who's Got the Will?** Onstage in Bedford presents the Del Shores comedy. Trinity Arts Theatre on the Bedford Boys Ranch, 2819 Forest Ridge Drive, Bedford. Through Feb. 6. Fridays–Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. \$15. OnstageinBedford.com

**O Brother, Werewolf Art Thou?** By Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 5400 E. Mockingbird Lane, Suite 119. Through Feb. 19. Thursdays–Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 7 p.m. \$10–\$18. PocketSandwich.com.

**This.** Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through Feb. 13 Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays–Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. \$15–\$30. StageWest.org.

## SATURDAY 01.29

## COMMUNITY

**Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous.** Meets daily at noon and 7:30 p.m., Maple Plaza, 5353 Maple Ave, #130 (Entry in rear of building).

**Youth First Texas** groups for ages 14 to 22. 3918 Harry Hines Blvd. Fridays–Saturdays and Tuesdays–Wednesdays at 6 p.m., Thursdays at 4 p.m. YouthFirstTexas.org.

## BROADCAST

Cathedral of Hope worship service. Ch. 8 at 12:35 a.m. (Friday after midnight).

## SUNDAY 01.30

## COMMUNITY

**Awakening Heart Community of Mindful Living.** LGBT-Friendly “meditation and more” event. Dallas

**HOOFIN' IT** | Indie popsters Deerhoof stop in Dallas Wednesday at The Loft.



Meditation Center, 727 S. Floyd Rd, Richardson, TX 75080. 5 p.m. AwakeningHeart.org

**Dignity Dallas** sponsors Roman Catholic liturgy. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6 p.m. 214-521-5342 ext. 1732. DignityDallas.org.

**The ONE Church** hold at Sunday services. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 6 p.m. OneChurchTX.org.

**Gaymsters** bridge club. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 2 p.m.

## BROADCAST

**Lambda Weekly.** LGBT radio for North Texas. 89.3 KNON-FM at noon. LambdaWeekly.com.

## MONDAY 01.24

## COMMUNITY

**Caffeine + Character.** Cathedral of Hope youth meeting at Buli Café, 3908 Cedar Springs Road.

**F.A.C.E.**, support group for those impacted by HIV/AIDS in any capacity. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. Cathedralofhope.com.

**Self esteem support group** provided by AIDS Outreach Center meets weekly. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 1:30 p.m. AOC.org.

**DFW Prime Timers** play bridge every week at 1 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

## BROADCAST

**The Rick Vanderslice Show** streams Monday–Friday from noon–2 p.m. on RationalRadio.org.

## TUESDAY 02.01

## COMMUNITY

**Tuesday Night Fellowship** with The ONE Church. Buffalo Wild Wings, 4140 Lemmon Ave. 7 p.m. OneChurchTX.org.

**Q's-Day Potluck.** All are welcome to this friendly, casual LGBT gathering every Tuesday evening. The Corporate Image, 5418 Brentwood Stair Road, Fort Worth, 817-446-3395.

**Classic Chassis Car Club.** Ojeda's 4617 Maple Ave. 6:30 p.m. 214-446-0606.

**National Leather Association-Dallas** meeting. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7 p.m. NLA-Dallas.org.

## THEATER

**Mamma Mia!** The ABBA musical plays a short run in Fort Worth. Bass Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Through Feb. 5. \$37–\$75. BassHall.com.

## BROADCAST

**The 10%** with Israel Luna and Richard Curtin streams every Tuesday and Thursday at 3 p.m. on RationalBroadcasting.com.

## WEDNESDAY 02.02

## COMMUNITY

**DFW Prime Timers** play bridge every week at 7 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

**Common Bond,** book group. Barnes & Noble, 362 East F.M. 1382, Cedar Hill. 7 p.m. 972-293-9367.

**x3** social group for women. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 7–8:30 p.m. Free. 214-528-0144.

## CONCERT

**Yann Tiersen, Deerhoof, Ben Butler, Mousepad** perform at The Loft, 1135 S. Lamar St. Doors at 7:30 p.m. \$20. GilleysMusic.com.

## THURSDAY 02.03

## COMMUNITY

**Stonewall Group of Narcotics Anonymous.** Meets daily at noon and 7:30 p.m., Maple Plaza, 5353 Maple Ave, #130 (Entry in rear of building).

**PFLAG Fort Worth** meets. First Jefferson U.U. Church, 1959 Sandy Lane. 7 p.m. Pflagfortworth.org.

**First Thursday Gallery Walk** where all showrooms and galleries along Dragon Street in the Design District will remain open until 8 p.m. each month.

## BROADCAST

**The Jesse Garcia Show.** Latino news talk and entertainment by the prominent gay and Latino local activist. Airs on KNON 89.3 FM Thursdays at 7 a.m. JesseGarciaShow.com.

**Reckless After Dark.** LGBT radio show hosted by Chase Brooks with Cat Michaels, and Auntie J. The show takes on all topics from gay rights to pop culture. Airs on FishBowlRadioNetwork.com every week at 5 p.m. ChaseBrooks.com

## this week's solution

A	W	E	S		M	E	O	W		S	A	P	S	
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**CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY**

By Jack Fertig



**Portia de Rossi** turns 38 on Monday. In 2010, actress de Rossi changed her name to include her wife's last name. She famously married Ellen DeGeneres in 2008. But de Rossi opened many eyes to her life in last year's memoir *Unbearable Lightness: A Story of Loss and Gain* where she revealed her struggles with anorexia and the problems of her first marriage.

**AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18**

Your social charisma is strong, but exercising it risks a greater price than you imagine. Be careful about any commitments of time and energy. You'll find you had less than you thought.

**PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19**

Consider your ambitions carefully. A burst of energy now tempts you to overextend yourself. Some courage is good, but meditate and think ahead before you promise to deliver the moon.

**ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19**

Friendly provocation, dares and seductions lead you easily into trouble. Don't avoid your friends. Just think twice to avoid going along with something foolish.

**TAURUS Apr 20-May 20**

A simple effort at friendly seduction is liable to blow up in your face. Think about your romantic/sexual needs and talk with a friend you trust with your secrets — or a professional counselor.

**GEMINI May 21-Jun 20**

You're eager to get ahead and out to new vistas. Asking questions and understanding the answers is better than assuming that you already know everything you need to take the next step.

**CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22**

You're looking very sexy, but slippery. You may be as irresistible as those impulses, but be very careful about playing safe. Right now every accident and bug around is out to get you.

**LEO Jul 23-Aug 22**

You and your partner are both full of grand fantasies, not quite meeting on planet Earth. Try lying back and letting your honey take the lead. You could find it a very happy surprise.

**VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22**

If you and your partner or roommate are arguing over house-keeping, your best strategy is to relax and be flexible. You probably don't like that, but the alternative just brings more trouble.

**LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22**

Stay focused on tasks at hand and be creative on paper or on screen, not aloud. Let a friend confirm your brilliance before you send anything out.

**SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21**

Your creative crises is resolved at home or by looking at family wisdom. Guard against extravagance. Transform old junk into new treasures. Focusing your will is hard. The rest is easy!

**SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20**

Revelatory letters to your family lead to more drama than expected. That could be good at getting everything out in the clear, but the calm road to resolutions can get loud and nasty.

**CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19**

The stars are opening you up for therapeutic release of secrets and problems. Choose the time, place and confidante very carefully or your worst secrets will be out all over the place.

**THIS WEEK**

Venus in Sagittarius square Jupiter and Uranus in Pisces is very sensual and innovative, if perhaps a bit over-indulgent. Mars and the sun in Aquarius are bringing out the edgy innovative side, maybe a bit hardcore. Pushing hard spoils the energy. To get where you want, relax and pay attention to clues.

Jack Fertig can be reached at 415-864-8302 or Starjack.com

**Kyle's Bed & Breakfast** by Greg Fox

**Panel 1:** I'M IMPRESSED, PRICE. IT'S BROOKS BROTHERS, LANCE... JUST LIKE YOUR OVERCOAT.

**Panel 2:** I DON'T MEAN THE OVER-COAT, PRICE. I'M TALKING ABOUT THE FACT THAT...  
...OUT OF ALL MY CONTACTS AT BRINKLEY-SLOAN...

**Panel 3:** ...NOT A ONE OF YOUR FORMER CO-WORKERS IS WILLING TO BREATHE A SINGLE WORD OF DIRT ABOUT YOU.

**Panel 4:** PERHAPS THAT'S BECAUSE THERE'S NO DIRT ABOUT ME TO SPEAK OF.

**Panel 5:** PLEASE. YOU EITHER PAID THEM OFF...  
...OR THREATENED THEM INTO KEEPING THEIR MOUTHS SHUT.

**Panel 6:** ONE NIGHT, JASON CAUGHT ME MASTURBATING IN THE POOL AFTER A LATE-NIGHT SWIM.

**Panel 7:** I ASKED HIM IF I COULD HAVE TWENTY FOUR HOURS TO RAISE THE MONEY ... AND HE AGREED.

**Panel 8:** YOU KNOW, LANCE... WHEN I WAS A TEENAGER BACK IN KENTUCKY...  
...ONE OF THE GARDENERS AT OUR MANSION WAS NAMED JASON.

**Panel 9:** HE THREATENED TO TELL MY DADDY... UNLESS I PAID HIM TEN-THOUSAND DOLLARS.

**Panel 10:** OH? AND WHAT HAPPENED?

**Panel 11:** I WENT STRAIGHT TO DADDY AND TOLD HIM I CAUGHT JASON MASTURBATING IN THE POOL. DADDY FIRED HIM IMMEDIATELY.

**Panel 12:** MY... WHAT A CHARMING TALE.  
THE POINT OF WHICH IS THIS:  
PEOPLE WHO TRY TO SCREW ME OVER...  
...ARE USUALLY THE ONES WHO END UP GETTING SCREWED.

**Panel 13:** REALLY? I THOUGHT THE POINT WAS TO NEVER GO SWIMMING IN A POOL AFTER YOU'VE BEEN IN IT.

**Panel 14:** WHY DON'T YOU JUST ADMIT YOU WANT TO SLEEP WITH ME?

**Panel 15:** WHOA. DELUSIONAL MUCH?

**Panel 16:** I'D RATHER SLEEP WITH A RATTLE-SNAKE.

**Panel 17:** THAT COULD BE ARRANGED...

Website - [www.kylecomics.com](http://www.kylecomics.com)

E-Mail - [KylesBnB@aol.com](mailto:KylesBnB@aol.com)

**bitter girl**

**Panel 1:** FOR THIS FUNDRAISER HOUR, WE'RE RAFFLING OFF BRUNCH FOR TWO! CALL IN AND TELL ME WHAT A CATCH YOU'D BE ON VALENTINE'S DAY! KIDDING. YOU CAN JUST CALL ...

**Panel 2:** HEY, ... LOVE YOUR SHOW. AND, LIKE, I CAN IMAGINE WHAT A CATCH YOU'D BE!!

**Panel 3:** I'LL BET YOU CAN ... CAUSE YOU'RE MY EX ASHLEY, RIGHT?

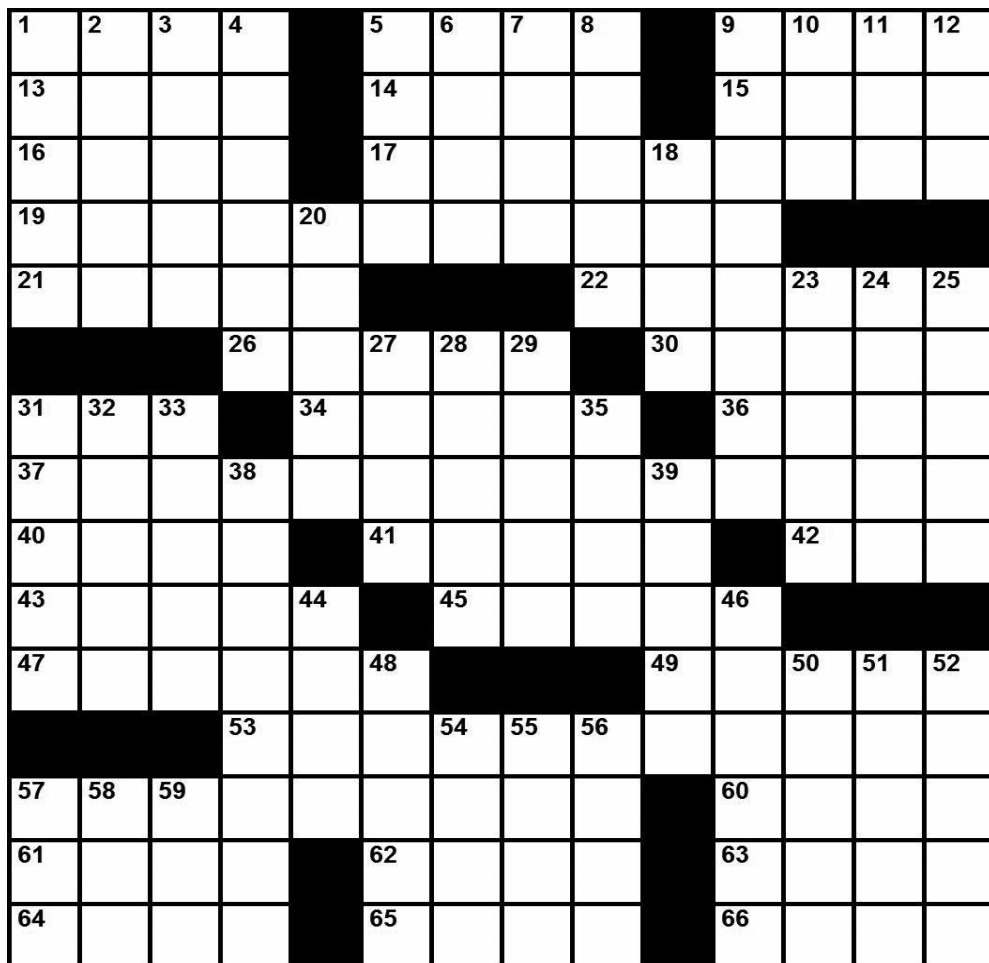
**Panel 4:** HUH? NO!! ASHLEY, C'MON-- I KNOW IT'S YOU. I'VE NEVER EVEN BEEN IN A BAND YOU DRUMMED FOR! OOPS, WHO STOOD YOU UP TONIGHT, ASH?

email: [bittergirl@qsyndicate.com](mailto:bittergirl@qsyndicate.com)

[www.joanhilty.net](http://www.joanhilty.net)

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# Glee Club

Solution on page 33

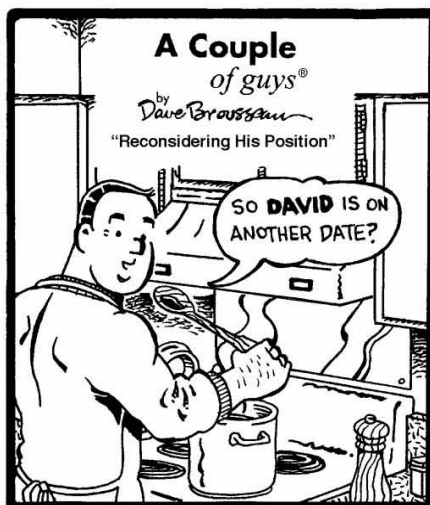
**Across**

- 1 Blows away
- 5 Pussy sound
- 9 Suckers
- 13 Request by a well
- 14 Meat that goes in your boxers
- 15 "See ya!"
- 16 The African Queen author
- 17 They're little but they still can shoot off
- 19 Actor who won a 53-Across for Glee
- 21 Cliché-ridden
- 22 Join the service
- 26 Prudential rival
- 30 "Fiddle- \_\_\_!" (phrase of 9-Down)
- 31 Former TV host's new channel
- 34 Places for hinges
- 36 Cry of pride
- 37 What 19-Across in his acceptance speech called di-rector Ryan Murphy
- 40 Use a trick towel
- 41 1300 hrs., to Col. Cammermeyer
- 42 Common correlatives
- 43 " \_\_\_ told by an idiot" (Shakespeare)
- 45 Give a large bosom, e.g.

- 47 Layer of some balls
- 49 More like nelly?
- 53 Award won by 19-Across
- 57 Tales of the City author Maupin
- 60 Gulp of medicine
- 61 Fair-to-middling
- 62 Non-speaking part in Born Free
- 63 Barely makes, with "out"
- 64 Use your hands instead of your mouth
- 65 Stink up the place
- 66 Actor Auberjonois

**Down**

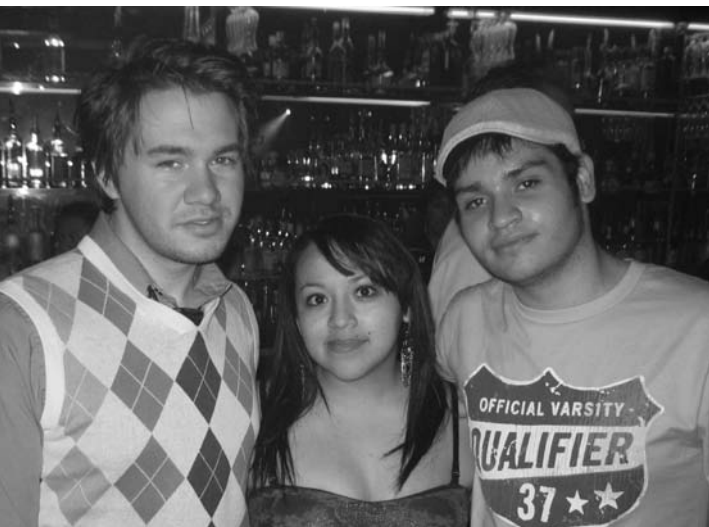
- 1 Aerial defense acronym
- 2 Isle of Auden's land
- 3 Former NFL player Tuaolo
- 4 Zelda portrayer in an old sitcom
- 5 Fem. opposite
- 6 Sailor's saint
- 7 Milk-colored gem
- 8 \_The Right Stuff\_ author
- 9 Tara heroine
- 10 BB propellant
- 11 Cager Parsons
- 12 Plea at sea
- 18 What libraries do
- 20 Like a nocturnal emission?
- 23 Potato source
- 24 Memorial of coming out of Egypt
- 25 Discharge on one's face
- 27 Take-out words
- 28 Peter of Herman's Hermits
- 29 Shakespearean forest
- 31 Words after tug or man
- 32 Geer's son, on The Waltons
- 33 Try to bite, doggy-style
- 35 Bay Area bulls (abbr.)
- 38 Field of Gene Robinson
- 39 In the midst of
- 44 NASA chimp
- 46 Our Town playwright Thornton
- 48 Take in, perhaps
- 50 "Chain Gang" singer Sam
- 51 The Wizard of Oz dropout Buddy
- 52 Witherspoon of Vanity Fair
- 54 Cut
- 55 " \_\_\_ On Down the Road"
- 56 Neighbor of Minn.
- 57 Pompous fool
- 58 Lyon king
- 59 Where the NY Liberty plays







Andrea and Susie at Rainbow Lounge.



Chad, Daniela and Tushi at Kaliente.



Parker, Sir David and Sir Hugh at the Dallas Eagle.



Sage, Elektra, Prissy, Alizay and friend at Station 4.

The countdown is on for **Super Bowl XLV** but why wait till then to party it up? ... **Jack's Backyard** serves up some Latin soul with the Santana tribute band **Soul Sacrifice** playing Friday. Bluesy rockers **Mojo Dolls** play the stage Saturday .... DJ **Gabriel Marestein** headlines **the Brick's** Saturday night this week. But on Friday, the **Pegasus Softball** teams will be having a recruitment mixer. Every Sunday is **Poker Night** for your gambling fix .... Why not take a road trip this weekend? Lesbian icon **Joan Jett and the Blackhearts** play at **Winstar World Casino** Saturday up in Thackerville, Okla. **The Gin Blossoms** co-headline so it'll be a worthwhile trip .... This is **Mr. Texas Leather Weekend** (see our coverage in the previous pages) and events take place all over. **The Dallas Eagle** starts it off with a **Meet and Greet** Friday night. The club hosts the **Black and Blue Ball** Saturday night and follows the contest with the **Victory Party** .... **The Rose Room** hosts the **Mr. Texas Leather** contest Saturday night. That's a whole different kind of drag than they are used to in there .... **Dish** serves up live tunes. Every Monday **Kristin Center** performs. Neighborhood faves **Gary Floyd** and **Denise Lee** perform on Wednesdays. How are those as side items? ... **Mojo Dolls** hit up **Sue Ellen's** first on Friday. **Ciao Bella** performs on Saturday and **Shut Down Town** plays Sunday. Got game? Try it out on Tuesday at the club's **Dart and Pool Tourney** and during **Texas Hold 'em Poker**. But where's the Parcheesi? Sing it up every Thursday with **Little Chalupa Karaoke** .... OK, so after all that's done, are you ready for some football?

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES



Paul, Jeff and Gabe at Grapevine Bar.



David and Allen at Drama Room.



Keith and Josh at the Round-Up Saloon.



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*Alternatives*

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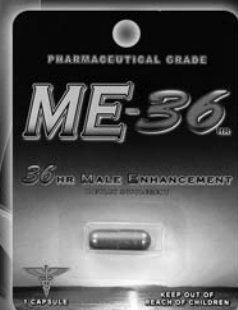
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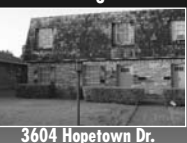
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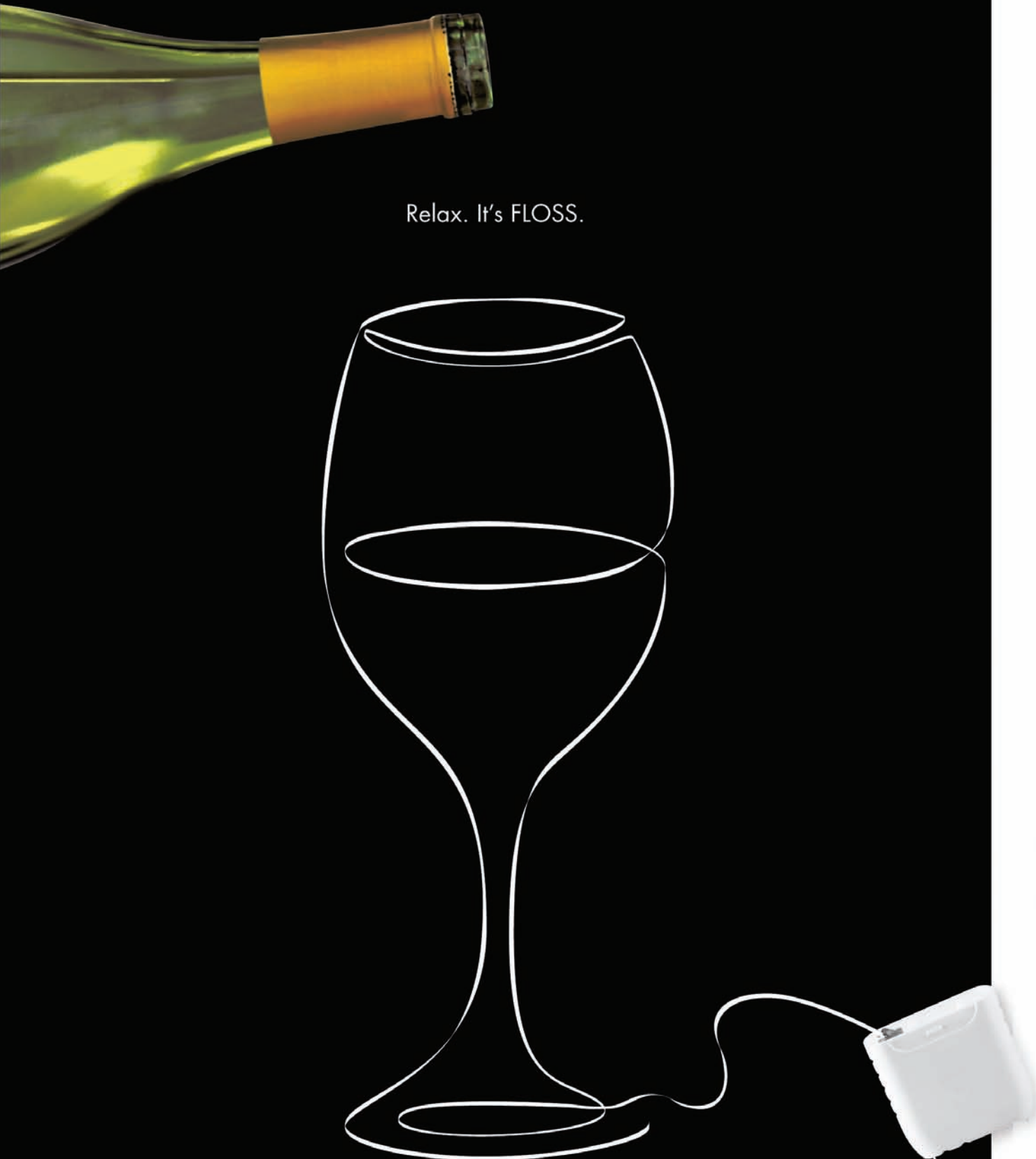
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